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1. The city of Baku is situated about 20 meters below sea-level. The climate is dry and sub-tropical. From spring until fall there is no rain, and the weather is very hot, approaching 40°C. Sand-storms are common and generally come from the southwest. The winters are very cold and bitter winds blow in from the Caspian Sea.

2. Frostbite was common during the winter, for which ichthyol ointment was used and occasionally potassium permanganate. The Soviets had no valid reason for the use of permanganate except that it was available. It was used widely as a disinfectant.

3. The incidence of infectious diseases in the Baku area, [redacted] 50X1-HUM

a. Malaria was common and was primarily tertian. It was difficult to diagnose the type of malaria at times because of the occurrence of mixed forms; however, [redacted] cases were tropical malaria. 50X1-HUM The Soviets treated all cases with akrikhin.

b. No typhus was observed.

c. Tuberculosis occurred among the PWs, who then either died or were shipped back to Germany. The extent of tuberculosis among the civilians was difficult to ascertain.

d. Very little hepatitis was observed.

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- e. Venereal diseases were very uncommon.
- f. Bacillary dysentery was seen, but no amoebic form was reported.
- g. Trachoma was absent.
- h. Typhoid and paratyphoid cases were seen, but no serious outbreaks occurred.
- i. Dystrophy was not seen, nor was any avitaminosis observed among the civil population.
- j. Scabies was not observed.
- k. Influenza or diphtheria was not encountered.
- l. No tularemia, brucellosis, plague, or cholera was observed.
- m. Anthrax was alleged to have been widespread in Azerbaydzhan. in 1946.
- n. Ascariasis and tsenia infestation was very common among the civil population.
- o. No epidemics occurred [redacted] 50X1-HUM
4. The incidence of animal diseases was not known. The cattle appeared very resistant to infection and camels, a common beast of burden in the area, were equally hardy. 50X1-HUM
5. Jackals were the only wild animals observed.
6. [redacted] two kinds of scorpions. One was about 12 cm. long, black in color, and poisonous; it was rarely seen. The other was smaller in size, honey-colored, and non-poisonous; its bite had the intensity of a wasp sting. There were also poisonous snakes and spiders. Rats and mice infested the area.
7. No poisonous plants were ever seen or reported. Vegetation in the area was very sparse. 50X1-HUM
8. Food in Baku and Makhachkala was in poor supply for the first part [redacted] Fish was commonly eaten, but meat was rare. Cereals, beets, sauerkraut, green tomatoes, and cucumbers were the general fare. The food shortage became less severe as time went on and the civilians apparently were not in want. Makhachkala was a fruit area and produced apples, pears, and peaches. Corn was grown at Baku. 50X1-HUM
9. Baku was also a cotton-growing district. [redacted] no idea where Soviet bandage or surgical cotton was manufactured. 50X1-HUM
10. Water supply in Baku was supplied by pipes. Wells were very rare in the city area and water was brought in from higher ground outside the city. The well-water itself had an oily taste. No treatment of drinking water was ever required. 50X1-HUM
11. [redacted] three Soviet doctors who served as physicians for the PWs. The first was Putzova (fnu), a woman doctor, [redacted] who had allegedly studied in Moscow. [redacted] Another doctor, [redacted] was Oelbaum (fnu). A third doctor was Hollander (fnu). These three persons had not received a good medical education, and apparently were graduated from sub-professional schools, since their training was equivalent to that of a German medical corpsman. 50X1-HUM
12. Medical supplies [redacted] included aspirin, pyramidon, ether, ethyl-chloride, disulfan, sulfidin, and white streptocide; bandages were not in good supply but the Soviet bandages available were very good. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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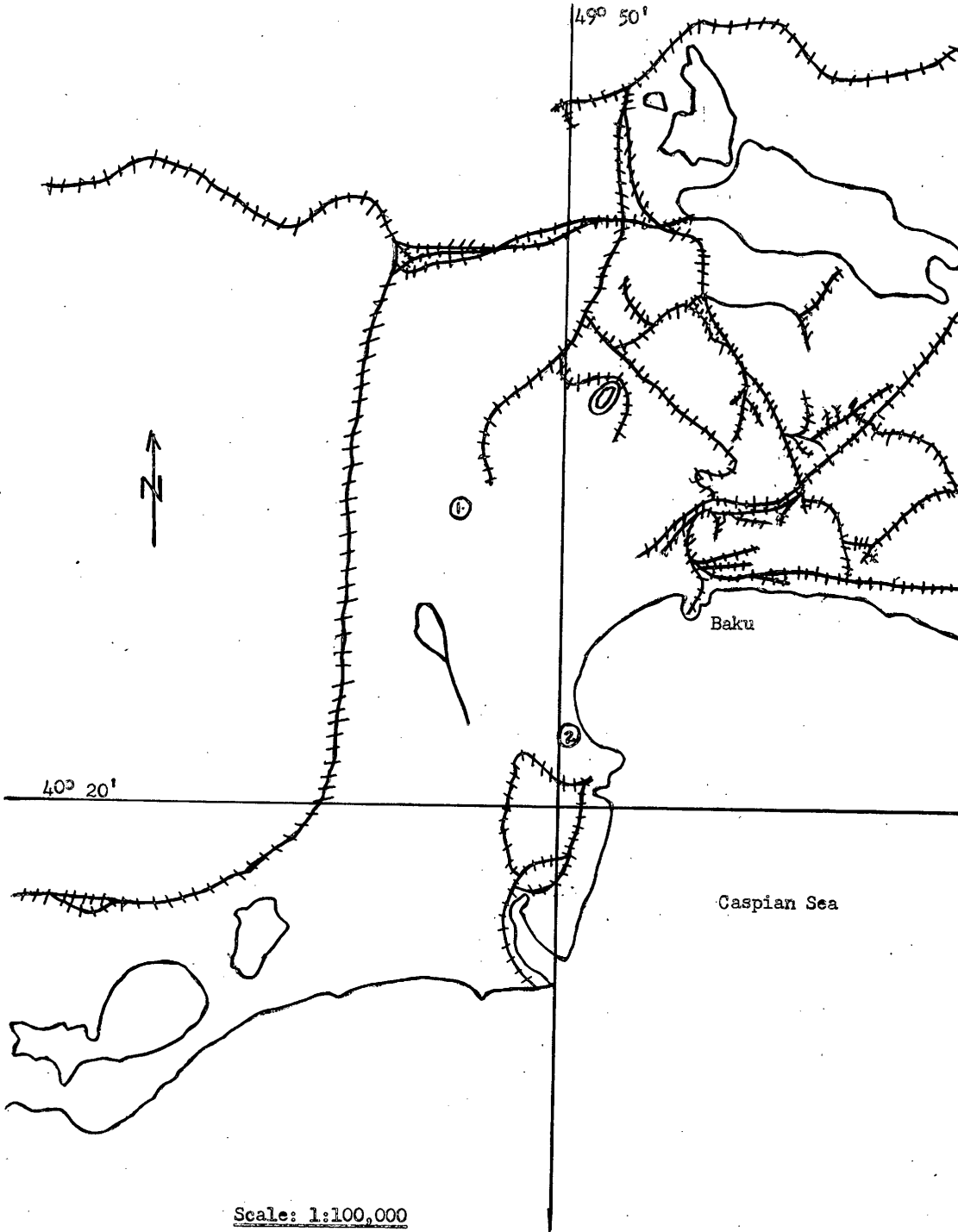
13. The Soviet soldiers and PWs were immunized twice a year with what [redacted] a combined hexavaccine (typhoid, typhus, dysentery, tetanus, and paratyphoid A and B) administered once in the spring and in the fall. The population did not receive this immunization. 50X1-HUM
14. [redacted] it was quite easy to transfer diseases across the Soviet-Iranian border, because of the wild terrain at the border. Nakhichevan had a population of about 10,000, which was readily susceptible to infection from border crossers whose movements could not be controlled. 50X1-HUM
15. Nothing was known concerning the existence of any medical training schools in Baku or in any of the areas [redacted] an alleged research institute about 500 meters from the railroad station. The institute appeared to be in a restricted area. 50X1-HUM
16. German physicians were permitted to visit Soviet civilian hospitals only on rare occasions to treat PWs. [redacted] a policy of setting aside a section of a civilian hospital for the use of PWs, who were administered to by German doctors. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
17. There were several hospitals in Baku, one for the Army (in the area near position 1 on Attachment), one for the Navy (position 2), and one for the civil population (not located). The navy hospital was described as "large" and had new German X-ray equipment. 50X1-HUM
18. [redacted] a dysentery epidemic had broken out at the PW Camp. It was said that the Soviets brought in an entire field hospital to prevent the spreading of the epidemic. This effort was successful and the field hospital was subsequently withdrawn. 50X1-HUM
19. In Baku, next to the PW camp was an installation which housed an army sanitary group (size not known). An old castle-like building, 50 meters by 50 meters, was used as a medical supply depot. (Its location is shown at position 1 on Attachment). The Soviet army sanitary group was housed in barracks about 1 kilometer from the supply depot. These barracks had water and sewage facilities, natural gas supply (for heating and cooking), and electric light. 50X1-HUM
20. [redacted] the Soviet railroad workers at Makhachkala had a clinic of their own, located in several stone-houses about 50-60 meters from the railroad-line, and about one kilometer north and west of the railroad station. There were separate sections for surgery, infectious diseases, and internal medicine, each in an individual house. [redacted] the Soviets paid considerable deference to railroad workers, as was reflected in better pay, better clothing, and better medical facilities. 50X1-HUM
21. [redacted] there was also a civilian hospital in Makhachkala, and an army hospital. [redacted] the army forces stationed in the city as large in number, but could give no exact figure. 50X1-HUM

Attachment: Sketch of the area mentioned in this report.

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Attachment



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