

FEB 1952 01-AAA

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. []

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT 1. Village of Zdolbunov
2. PWs Expected from Korea, including Americans
3. Mass Graves near Zdolbunov

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO. []

NO. OF ENCLS. 1 (3 pages)
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE []

1. Zdolbunov (50-31N, 26-16E) is the railroad junction for the Zdolbunov Rayon. The railroad station is about 60 meters wide with about 12 tracks leading to it. German PWs rebuilt this station, and according to source it is one of the most beautiful stations he has seen. The station was completed on 1 May 1948. Most lines to Zdolbunov are double tracks. The single track which leads to Dubno was formerly a double track, but one line was destroyed during the war and has not yet been repaired. Source is not familiar with the railroad toward Shepetovka but knows that the line is good as far as Ivachkovo, 11 km from Zdolbunov.
2. Small woods line both sides of a highway which goes from Zdolbunov to Rovno and Klevan.
3. There are a number of large railroad repair shops and metal works close to the railroad station and freight depot. Many of the village people are employed by the railroad. The village has a large brick factory and a tractor engine repair shop called Kapitalnyy Remont. A new plant for the cement industry has been under construction since fall 1950.
4. Wheat, rye, and barley are raised in this area. There are also many cherry, apple, and pear orchards. There is some forestry activity, and trees that are cut down are not replaced.
5. The population of Zdolbunov consists mainly of old and new Ukrainian emigres from Poland and Czechs who emigrated in 1917 from Prague and Pilsen.
6. A concentration camp which formerly housed German PWs is in Zdolbunov. The camp is located about 12 km from the Zdolbunov railroad station. When source's family emigrated to the [] they saw these prisoners near the railroad station. They were being marched to the cement factory to dig gravel. Natives in town claim that at that time there were more than 1,000

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25X1A prisoners at the camp. In April 1951, Kuchinski (fnu), a former major at the Voenkomat in Zdolbunov, [redacted] PWS from Korea were to be brought to the prison camp which formerly housed the German PWS, and that these prisoners were to include Americans. A large cemetery located close to the cement factory was investigated by UPA men, who reported that there were over 1,000 graves with as many as ten bodies in each grave. This cemetery has been completely neglected, and soon no trace will remain of it.

7. The chief of the Rayspolkom, Buri (fnu), disappeared in November 1949 and was replaced by a Ukrainian woman. The militia chief in the Zdolbunov Rayon is Muranov (fnu), a captain. He is about 50 years old, tall, slim, with dark eyes and dark hair turning gray and combed straight back. He is a Russian and wears a dark blue uniform with straight-type jacket and white epaulets with light blue trim. His office is located in the MVD Building on Tsementna Street. There is only one small wooden building in the same block with this MVD building. Krasno Pohaniki [anti-UPA troops] frequently travel about the village in armored cars. There are also regular police units in Zdolbunov.
8. Novye Zhitya is a newspaper published in Zdolbunov.

Attachment: Layout sketch of Zdolbunov

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[redacted] Comment: Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

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Attachment
Page 2Key to Sketch:

1. Stream
2. Ukrainian Orthodox Church
3. Railroad Station
4. Freight depot
5. Railroad lines (source says there are many lines here but did not draw them in because he could not recall exact numbers or locations)
6. Cement industry
7. Cemetery
8. Store, called Raymal
9. Hospital
10. MVD Office of Zdolbunov Rayon
11. Voenkomat
12. Rayon financial office
13. Catholic Church
14. Polyclinic
15. Ukrainian Orthodox Church
16. Zdolbunov High School
17. Rayspolkom
18. MTM (Tractor repair shop)
19. Flour mill
20. Former PW camp
21. Elementary school
22. Granaries
23. Bazaar
24. Cemetery
25. Hospital
26. Brick factory. This is located approximately 25 meters from the road leading to Rovno and 150 meters from the stream.
27. New cement factory
28. Cable car. This car operates between the cement industry (#6 on map) and Staromilsk Village. Chalk from Staromilsk is hauled to the cement factory by the cable car, which is approximately 45 feet above the ground. Nets are strung above the railroad, highway, stream, and houses as a safety precaution.

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Attachment
Page 3

29. Cemetery. German PWs are buried here. It is located 1 kilometer from the road and 100 meters from the railroad line to Dubno.
30. Park and stadium.
31. Granary. It is about 50 meters long, 12 meters wide, and is set off by a wooden fence. The entrance is guarded by an armed guard.
32. Bolshevik Movie Theater.
33. Bank. This is a two-storied building set 3 to 4 meters away from the street. It is surrounded by a wooden fence. An armed MVD man is on guard at the entrance.
34. National Court. This is a two-storied white stone building.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORTREPORT NO.

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

SUBJECT The Village of Svalyava

DATE OF INFO.

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SOURCE

1. The village of Svalyava (48-33N, 22-59E), which is 24 kilometers from Mukachevo, has three enterprises - a sawmill, wood-chemical industry (Leso-Khimicheskiy Zavod - LKhZ),¹ and a state-owned wood refinery. All three are connected with the main railroad line and with each other by single-track rail lines. All are fenced in by high wooden fences with an armed guard stationed at each entrance. Acetone is one of the products of the LKhZ.
2. The majority of people in the village are Slovaks from the Hungarian border area and the language commonly heard is Hungarian. Slovak, Ukrainian, and Polish are also heard.
3. Social life consists of visits by a few trusted friends or neighbors. A few people have radios, and foreign broadcasts are listened to in great secrecy. When source lived in Svalyava, he saw friends listening to foreign broadcasts by placing the radio under the feather cover on the bed. They would listen to Hungarian broadcasts coming from the VOA and Western Europe. It is not a risk to have a radio, but to be caught listening to a foreign broadcast is extremely dangerous.
4. All buildings in the village have red tile roofs, except the one housing the LKhZ company store and the building across the street from the store. All employees of the wood-chemical industry are housed in buildings located on Khrushchova Street. Bachelor employees are housed in one building of about 50 rooms which has a cafeteria. Men are billeted on the ground floor, several men in one room, and the women occupy the rooms on the second floor. This building is known as Obshcheye Zhitelstvo #1 (common building). The building is managed by a female doctor named Mashkina (fmu). She is about 24 years old, Ukrainian, average height, with dark eyes and brown hair. Her husband is director of the chorus formed of workers at the wood-chemical industry, and he is also secretary of the Komsomol group at the firm. Families are assigned two-room apartments which are usually

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occupied by more than one family. Each apartment has one electric outlet besides the ceiling light.

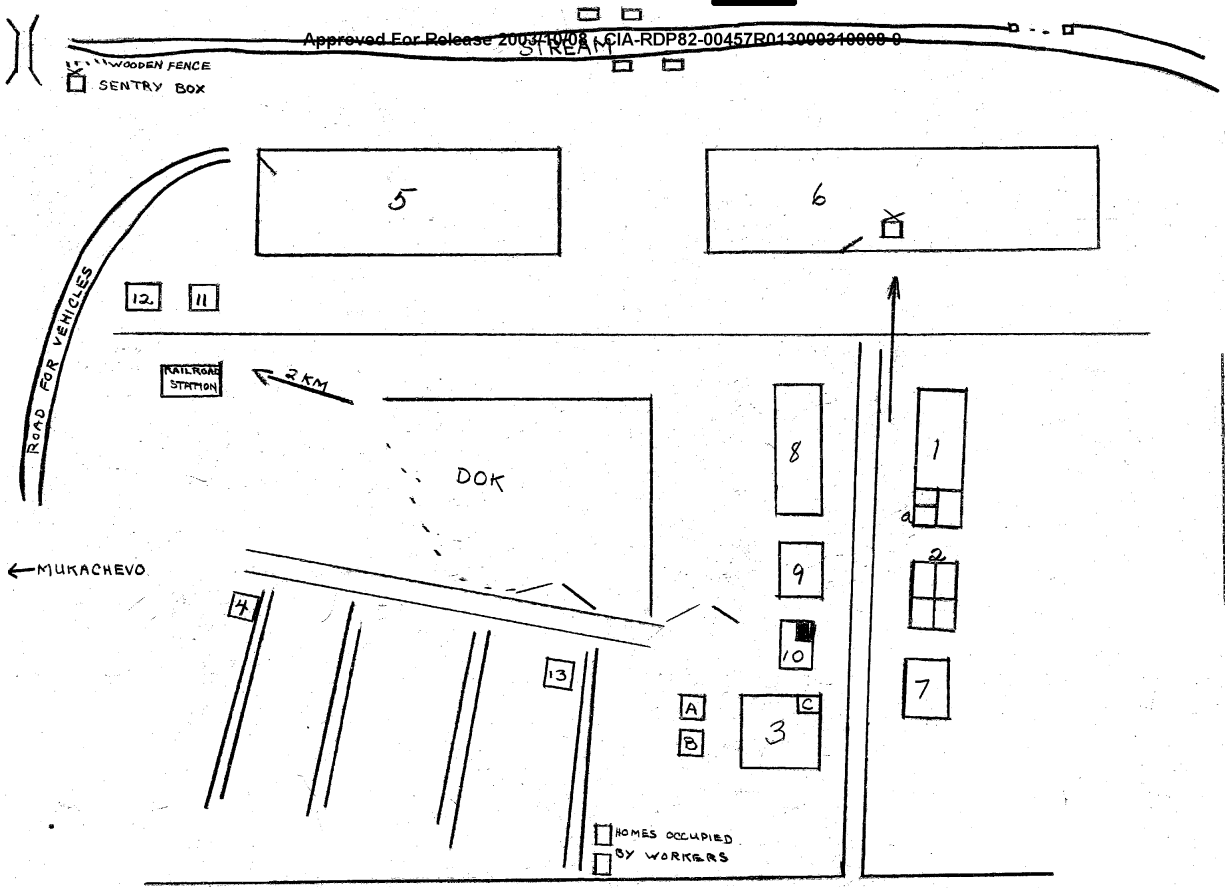
5. To insure getting a job, it is possible to bribe the director of the LKhZ by giving him food. New employees must prepare an autobiography, and the director checks all personal documents, including propusk, driver's license, passport, and trudoknishka. The trudoknishka is retained by the personnel office as long as the person remains employed. When released, an entry of release is made in this book, and it is returned to the individual.
6. Meals at the LKhZ cafeteria cost from 3.45 to 4 rubles for dinner and 2 to 3.50 rubles for breakfast. There is only one menu for each meal. Portions are small. A dinner consists usually of hamburger or breaded cutlets, potatoes, bread, and soup. The cafeteria is used mostly by Komsomol members. Workers come only after pay day, once a month, when they feel like splurging. There are never more than twenty people for one meal.

Attachment: One layout sketch of Svalyava

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1. Comment: A Szolyva Wood Alcohol Plant was previously reported.

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Layout Sketch of Svalyava

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Attachment
Page 1

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Attachment
Page 2

Key to Sketch

1. LKhZ company store (zavodskaya magazin). This is a general store in a building 45 meters long, one story high, painted white.
- 1.a Two-room apartment.
2. Dwelling
3. Dwelling for bachelor employees of LKhZ
- 3.a,b LKhZ office buildings. One is the billeting office.
- 3.c Cafeteria.
4. Police registration office.
5. Sawmill
6. LKhZ
- 7-13. Buildings. Uses unknown.

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FEB 1952

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Village of Podtsurkovo

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO. NO. OF ENCLS. 25X1A
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SOURCE

1. By April 1950 all individual farming was done away with and every villager was signed up to work for the kolkhoz. The kolkhoz of Podtsurkovo has been merged with five other kolkhozy into Kolkhoz Stalina, employing approximately 3,000 people. Kolkhoz workers are paid in produce, in Podtsurkovo principally grain. One year the workers earned as little as $2\frac{1}{2}$ kg of grain per day. With this the worker had to clothe and feed his family. Villagers make liquor out of sugar beets in order to earn money from its sale. Each family is permitted to keep one cow but must give the government a certain amount of milk each year.
2. There are approximately sixty homes in the village, including a few homes located some distance from the center. Two or three families live in each house. The population consists mostly of Poles, Ukrainian emigres from Poland, a few Russians, and the Slovak emigres from Czechoslovakia. There are no Jews in the village. The village administration is headed by Vasil Yarchuk, secretary of the village council. Yarchuk is a Polish emigre intensely disliked by the villagers. One night he was badly beaten by two unknown assailants. The authorities arrested and sentenced a Ukrainian villager whom they suspected as being anti-Soviet. After the beating, Yarchuk was less vicious. The president of the Selsovet is Stepan Protaz, a Ukrainian emigre from Poland. Protaz is about 52 years old, 5'6" tall, long face, dark eyes. He is married and has two grown children, a boy Misha who married in 1948, and a daughter Nastya Parasiuk, a widow with one daughter.
3. The train schedule from Rovno includes the following run:

Depart Rovno 6:30 p.m. (local train)
 Arrive Zdobunov 7:05 p.m.
 Depart Zdobunov 8:57 p.m. for Radzivilov (local train)
 Arrive Ulbarov Station (1 km from Podtsurkovo) 9:30 p.m.

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Trains have a special rate for students.

4. The village has its own militia, headed by Lisenko (fnu). In the autumn of 1950 Lisenko organized a special police unit (istrebitelnaya gruppa) of eight men. Similar police units have been set up in every village for the purpose of protecting the villagers and government property from any attempted attack or destruction. Men who are forced to take this duty are those who have been charged with some offense and face a prison sentence if they refuse. Only one of the eight men in this group was a volunteer. In addition to Lisenko the group consists of the following men:

Volodimir Kashpar: a Czechoslovak who was considered a kulak and whose estate was confiscated by the Soviets in 1949. His residence is 100 meters from the railroad station.

Yuri Kotradi: born in 1932. In 1949 he was accused of operating a still and of destroying the truck used to show movies in the villages.

Mihail Bobko: about 43 years old; faced a prison term for making liquor.

Yuri Petrisko: about 51 years old, who faced a prison term for selling liquor and for failing to register possession of two cows. Each family is permitted to have one cow and having more than one subjects the owner to heavy taxation, both in money and milk.

Yuri Horbal: about 50 years old; was charged with having operated a still.

Mihail Kashpar: a Slovak about 50 years old, in whose home the police found a pistol.

Vasil Yarchuk: born in 1930 and the only volunteer for this work.

5. While Krasno Pohaniki, anti-UPA troops, are not attached to this locality, they frequently police the village. The UPA was very active in this area from 1947 until early 1950.

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Comment: Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Village of Vygoda

NO. OF PAGES 2

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SOURCE

1. Industries in Vygoda (48-55N, 23-56E) include the wood-chemical industry (Leso-Khimicheskiy Zavod), which produces acetone, tar, wood, coke, etc., and a sawmill, which was partially destroyed by fire in March 1951 and has not been completely repaired. The sawmill (Lesopilnyy Zavod), under the Lvov Trust, has only one truck in operation. Both plants are fenced off by wooden fences and have guards at the entrances. Director of the wood-chemical industry is Mazimovich (fnu); the bookkeeper is a Russian about 32 years old named Goroshko (fnu); and the supply chief is Nikolay Yevseyev.
2. All roads in the area around Vygoda are in extremely bad condition. They are narrow in spots and have deep ruts. This is particularly true of the road from Vygoda to Stryy, reconstruction of which was begun in April 1950. Only five kilometers near Stryy had been repaired by May 1951. The condition of the roads makes it difficult to recruit drivers for the logging trucks. Rail communications consist of freight trains from Dolina.
3. About one kilometer from the wood-chemical industry, there are about 15 houses known as Krasni Domi because of their red tile roofs. These houses were built when Vygoda was part of Poland and presently house employees of the sawmill. They are one-story wooden buildings, each with four apartments having one room and a kitchen. Most of these apartments are shared by more than one family, and, in many cases, three families share the two rooms. Apartments are heated by a central gas heating system. The wood-chemical industry has a housing project located near the plant. All buildings on Khrushchova Street have been taken over by the wood-chemical industry for their employees.
4. The Vygoda MVD office is located on the left hand side of the road leading from Dolina to Vygoda. This is Vygoda's main street. The MVD office is in a corner building, one story high, with a large red sign with black lettering above the entrance identifying it as the MVD office.

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lettering above the entrance identifying it as the MVD office. A Ukrainian, Hrovko (fnu), is chief of the passport office located here.

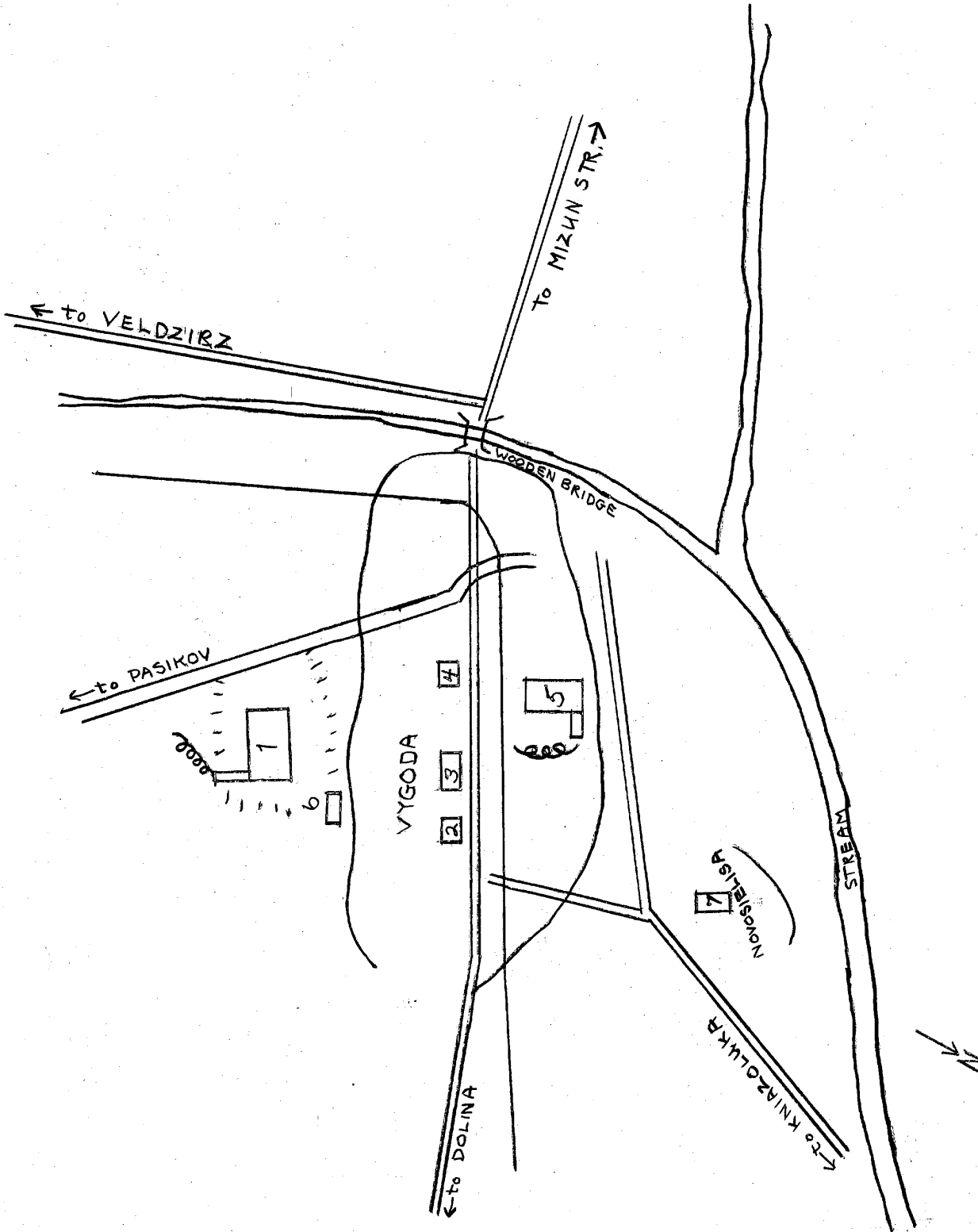
Attachment: One Layout Sketch of Vygoda

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Attachment

Layout Sketch of Vygoda



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Attachment

Key to Sketch of Vygoda

1. LKhZ (Leso-Khimpicheskiy Zavod)
2. MVD Office
3. Rayspolkom
4. Rayvoenkamat
5. Sawmill - Lesopilnyy Zavod (LPZ)
6. Housing project for LKhZ employees
7. Housing project for LPZ employees (Krasni Domb)

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Town of Dolina

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE OF INFO.

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SOURCE

1. Dolina (48-58N, 24-01E) is located about six kilometers from Vygod. The two towns are connected by a two-lane, stone-surfaced highway which is in poor condition. The town of Dolina has a salt mine and salt industry, both located about 1/2 kilometer south of the Orthodox Church. The Dolina Evangelical Church is located about 100 meters beyond the Rayonkomat building, on the opposite side of the street.
2. In 1950 source saw approximately ten newly-drilled oil wells in this area. An informant told source that one of the wells was 1,800 meters deep. Source saw the wells from Zagorshe, a hill in Dolina. He estimates that the first well is approximately 300 meters beyond the Dolina railroad station and the second about 500 meters from the first well. The others appear to be closer to one another. Source learned from an informant that the latter had seen plans for the drilling of a hundred oil wells in this area and that these ten were part of this plan. The drilling of the wells was begun in 1950.
3. Krasno Pohaniki (anti-UPA troops) are attached to this village. In January 1951, the bodies of three or four UPA men were placed against a building directly across from the Rayonkomat building on the main street in town. These men had been killed by a fire bomb thrown into their bunker. The bodies were displayed for several weeks. The faces were burned beyond recognition.

Attachment: One Sketch of Dolina

Comment: Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

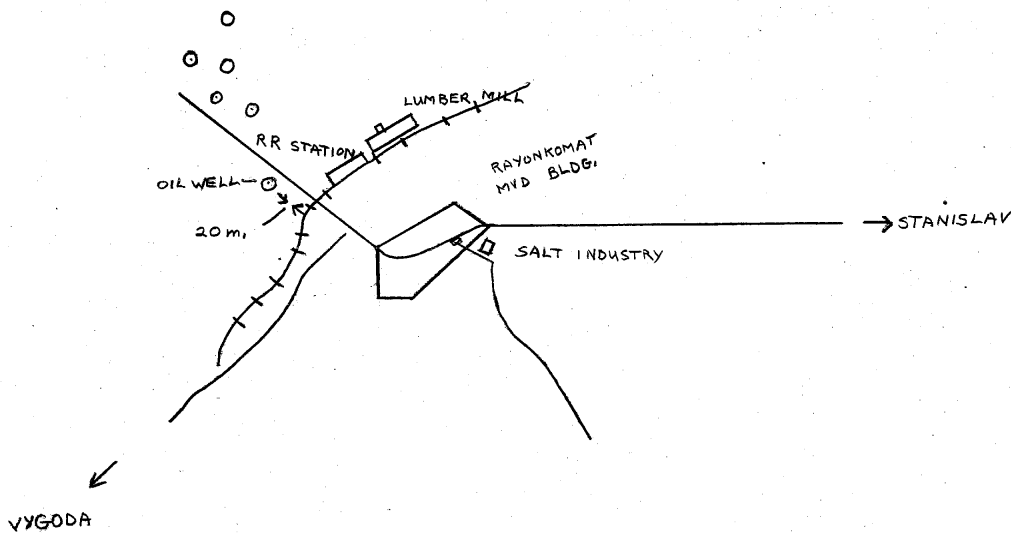
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Sketch of Doline

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INFORMATION REPORTREPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Village of Dubno

NO. OF PAGES 1

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SOURCE

1. The population of Dubno (50-25N, 25-44E) is greater than that of Zdolbunov. By the summer of 1950, everyone in the entire area had been taken into the kolkhozy. Allegedly, the most important positions in town are held by the Jewish Communists who are recent emigres from Palestine.
2. The village bazaar covers an area of approximately one hectare. The railroad station is newly built. Railroad police are constantly at the station; however, source was never stopped for questioning or to show documents.
3. There is an interurban bus from Ulbarov to Dubno. The one-way fare is one ruble. Busses are type GAZ MM or GAZ AA with green bodies and white, grey, or yellow tops. Bus fares are collected by women employees after passengers board the bus. The third or fourth bus stop from the railroad station in Dubno is at Prison #3. The last bus stop is at the bazaar.
4. Most of the forests in this area are oak, with some pine and spruce trees. Source only saw the forests from a train and cannot estimate how dense or extensive they are.
5. A military airfield is located approximately 100 meters from the railroad line of Zdolbunov to Lvov, about two kilometers from the Dubno railroad station. The field is about 40 kilometers southwest of Rovno. It is concealed from view by trees and can only be partially seen from passing trains. Source saw six to eight rows of planes with approximately 50 planes in a single row. Source does not know the type of plane seen except that they were two- and four-engined planes. This airfield is patrolled by military police. Source believes that the airfield and maneuver areas in town are restricted but does not know by what means. The town has a regular militia and a Krasno Pohaniki detachment.

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Towns of Perechin and Uzhgorod

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

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SOURCE

1. Perechin (48-46N, 22-28E) is located in Restricted Zone #1 (Zapretnaya Zona #1). The sawmill in this village employs approximately 400 people. Its trucking facilities consist of approximately 12 vehicles, most of them ZIS 5's and ZIS 21's and including one GAZ 51 truck and one light vehicle, a Moskvich. The ZIS 5 operates on gasoline; the ZIS 21 requires coke.
2. The forests in this area are dense and impassable in places. The Uzh River is as much as 50 meters wide at some points. Between Perechin and Uzhgorod (48-38N, 22-16E) is a large canal located about 100 meters from the highway. The canal is 15 meters wide and flows from Kamenets to Uzhgorod. A large electric power plant located on the canal supplies power for all of Uzhgorod and the surrounding area. The plant is on the left side of the road about 1 1/2 kilometers from Uzhgorod in the direction of Perechin. Source drew the attached sketch of Perechin.
3. Informant told source that headquarters for the wood-chemical industry is in Uzhgorod and that there are branches throughout the Trans-Carpathian region. The road from the city of Uzhgorod to Kamenets is a good asphalt road about ten meters wide. A train from Svalyava to Uzhgorod leaves the former village at about 9:50 a.m., stops at Khrushchovo, Mukachevo, Batovo, and Cop. At Cop one changes to a local train leaving about 11 a.m. and arriving in Uzhgorod about 1 p.m. There is an express train from Cop to Lvov. There is an evening train from Uzhgorod which arrives in Teresova about midnight. Three or four hours later, a train leaves Teresova for Ust Chorna via a narrow gauge track. On one occasion, this train was seen to consist of eight freight cars. It was packed with workers going to lumber mills in the mountain woods.
4. Close to the town of Talamos (sic), there is an overhead railroad bridge which crosses the main highway. The bridge is more than 50 meters wide.

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Guards are stationed in booths at both ends of the bridge and are on duty at all times.

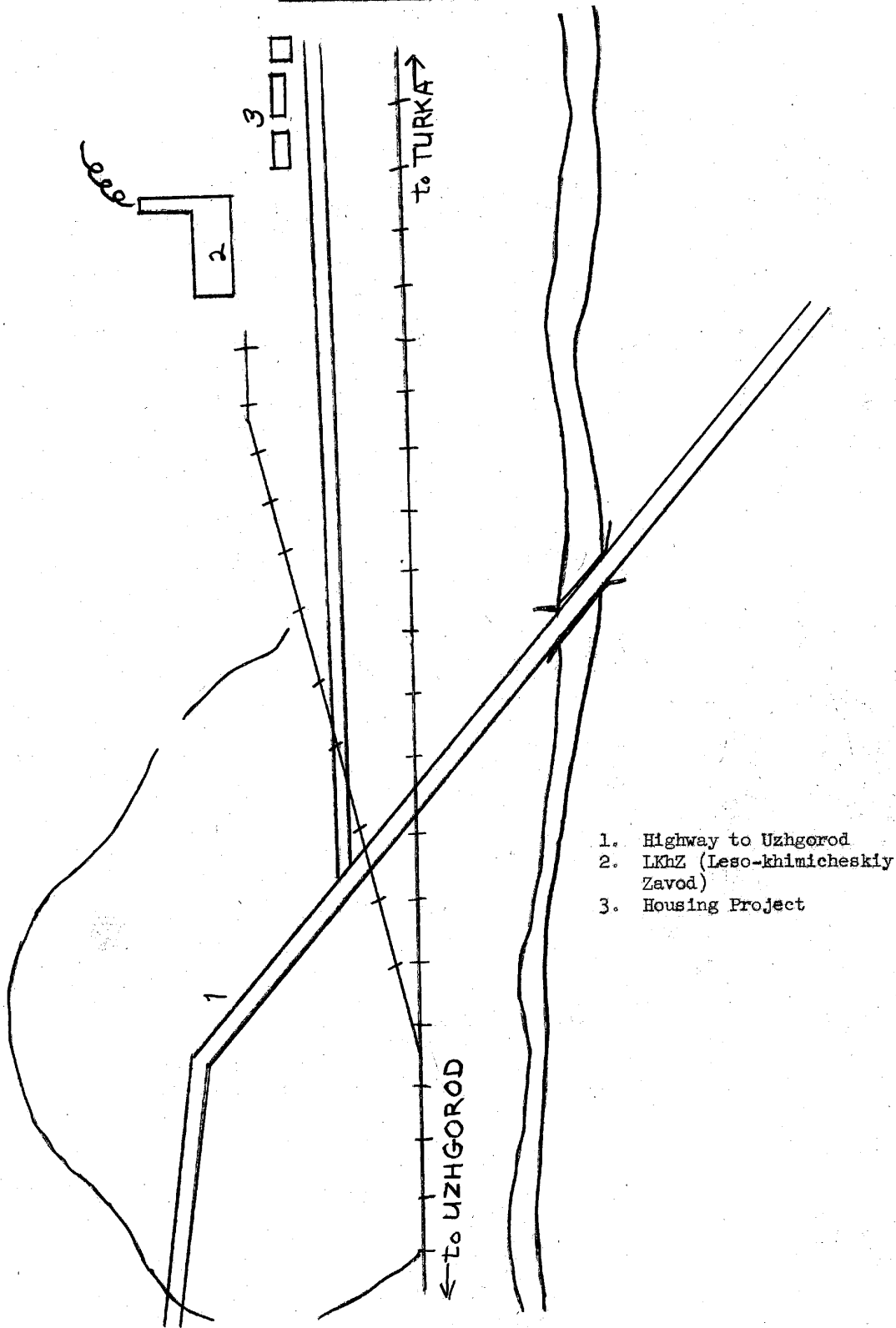
Attachment: One sketch of Perechin.

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Attachment

Sketch of Perechin



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FEB 1952 51-244

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. []

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Partisan Activity in the Ukrainian SSR

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF INFO. []

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SOURCE []

1. In the villages of the Ukraine, everyone has heard of the UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army) and all sympathize and give them food and material assistance whenever possible. No one would confess anything about the UPA to the authorities. UPA members are never taken alive. They are under oath to protect their activities and one another with their lives.
2. In 1950 the Soviet authorities set up special police units of approximately 70 men each in every sizable village to deal solely with the underground. These special police, who are called Krasno Pohaniki, are heavily armed and carry long iron rods which have a pointed end which they plunge into the brush and ground in wooded areas in their search for UPA shelters. Detachments of the Krasno Pohaniki are found in the areas where the UPA is the most active; however, they cover the entire Western Ukraine. They have succeeded in forcing the UPA into certain inactivity. This is borne out by the fact that from 1947 to 1950 the UPA was extremely active in the Western Ukraine, and since the creation of the Krasno Pohaniki the UPA has been less active in the open. [] stated that Krasno Pohaniki units were attached to the following villages:

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- a. Spassov
- b. Ozeranakh (Ozerani)
- c. Czeski Hiltsi (Cheski Hiltsi)
- d. Dubno
- f. Molidova
- f. Hrushovtsia (Hrushchovitsi)
- g. Kvasilov
- h. Rovno - Krasno Pohaniki were observed about the town but source did not know if they were attached to the town. They traveled in armored cars.
- i. Zdolbunov - The detachment in this town traveled in armored cars.

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- j. Ulbarov - Frequently visited by Krasno Pohaniki units of not less than eight men.
- k. Podtsurkovo - The Krasno Pohaniki units and the UPA were active in this area but the UPA less so after 1950.
- l. Diadkov - In the summer of 1950 a group of Soviet soldiers attacked a group of young Ukrainians for singing Ukrainian songs. During the fighting several villagers and four or five Soviet soldiers were killed. In retaliation a large number of villagers were deported to Siberia.
- m. Mizoch - Had the greatest number of Krasno Pohaniki because of the large number of UPA members in this area from 1947 to early 1950. Heavy raids (oblavas) forced the UPA out of this area, actively at least.
- n. Glinsk - A 70-man detachment of Krasno Pohaniki occupies the old post office building in this town. In 1950 UPA groups of 30 to 40 men were seen moving about the village and the area. Their bulletins were distributed everywhere and frequently. UPA bunkers, large enough to hold 30 men, were known to be under ploughed fields. They were built so as to permit smoke to spread out for some distance underground, thus concealing their fires.
3. In addition to the Krasno Pohaniki, each kolkhoz has a strybyk unit assigned to protect the kolkhozy. The strybyk are supported by the Krasno Pohaniki. Persons who are faced with prison terms are recruited for the strybyk units. They are given the alternative of either joining the strybyk and working in the local area against their neighbors or going to jail. Some people make liquor from sugar beets and, when caught by the village militia, are faced with making the above choice. According to source, people accept prison terms before accepting the police work and only habitual drunks accept strybyk duties of informing on and fighting against anti-government activity.
4. Until the summer of 1950 the UPA was active in the Podtsurkovo area. People always knew when the UPA had been in the village or area because they would find UPA leaflets posted about on homes, trees, etc. Source also saw leaflets being distributed in the village of Martinovtse. Two or three UPA men would approach a village and learn the whereabouts of the police or Krasno Pohaniki and, if the coast was clear, they would bring the rest of the UPA men into the village. They would visit the homes where young people met and would exchange information with them. On one occasion, they came to the village school, where the young folks were rehearsing a play being directed by two young school teachers. A few months later these two teachers were arrested and disappeared. In 1947 twenty boys who had been singing Ukrainian songs were taken from Tsurk and never returned.
5. Each year the authorities put more pressure on their police forces to search out UPA men. When UPA leaflets appear in the area, the Krasno Pohaniki make a thorough search of all homes. They make night raids and, if they suspect a family, they remain at the home all night. The villager has to furnish them with straw upon which they sleep in the house and has to feed them in the morning.
6. In February 1947 UPA members in the village of Podtsurkovo dressed as Soviet Army officers with ranks of lieutenants and captains, questioned the new emigres from Czechoslovakia about their origin, their trip, and their plans for the future in the Ukraine. From their first visit, the UPA men were convinced that the new emigres were greatly disillusioned and ready to go back to Czechoslovakia. At first everyone suspected the new emigres from Czechoslovakia of being spies settled in the Western Ukraine by the Soviets. They soon were recognized as being as unfortunate as the local inhabitants and were accepted by them and the UPA. On other

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occasions during their frequent visits to the Podtsurkovo area in 1947, the UPA men wore their own uniforms: dark green jackets with patch pockets, narrow leather bands criss-crossed from shoulders to waist, riding pants, high black boots, green caps with black visors or overseas caps. They wore the Ukrainian trident insignia. All UPA men were well armed.

- 25X1X 7. [] 1948 there was a wedding in Podtsurkovo which was attended by all the young people of the village. A group of about six or seven UPA men came dressed as Red Army officers. They danced and sang with the other young folks. They were immediately recognized as UPA men by some of the young boys. On the following day, the groom was taken from his home by the Krasno Pohaniki and brought to Zdolbunov (50-31N, 26-16E) for questioning. He was later taken to a nearby woods, where he was told to dig himself a grave. However, he was not killed but badly beaten. Four or five days later, source, who had also attended the wedding, received a letter from the Zdolbunov police to appear for questioning. He was accused of knowing UPA members, of being a member himself, and was told that all emigres, no matter where they were from, were spies. During the questioning source was beaten with fists and had pins stuck under his nails, causing him to lose every fingernail. He was told that other boys had been brought in for questioning, had confessed what they knew, and had been released. Source denied all knowledge and was released the following day. He reported back to work in Rovno (50-38N, 26-15E) and, although his face was badly beaten, his supervisor did not question him about it nor about his absence from work. It was later learned that the man who had betrayed the UPA was Stepan Strii, called Sashka. He knew there was a price on his head for this and never returned to the village unless accompanied by a group of armed authorities.
- 25X1X 8. [] 1950 source was again called before the Zdolbunov police and accused of having contact with the UPA. His accuser was Senior Lieutenant Karpenko (fnu), chief of the Krasno Pohaniki in Glinsk. Karpenko frequently came to Podtsurkovo hoping to trap source in some way. He repeatedly threatened to get source some day for his UPA activities. Again source was accused of having contact with the UPA and of spying for them. This time, in addition to a beating, he was kept for half an hour without clothing in a room where the temperature was at the freezing point. When he still refused to confess, a rubber belt was tied around his waist and this was snapped against his body. Such treatment can knock a man into unconsciousness; when source failed to respond to it, he was released. 25X1X
- 25X1X 9. UPA activities in the area have decreased and their last visit to the Podtsurkovo area known to source was in [] 1950, when a group of seven or eight came into the village on horseback. Source saw four UPA men [] on the road between Volovets and Volovo. They were dressed in UPA uniform and were on foot. They stopped source and asked him for his documents, since all documents note if the individual is a member of the Communist Party; if not, the documents are marked "non-Party." Source last saw UPA leaflets in [] 1951 in the village of Svalyava (48-33N, 22-59E) 25X1X
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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)/Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

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SOURCE

1. Immediately following World War II, Soviet agents began their propaganda work among the Slovak people to interest them in migrating to the Ukraine, "their true homeland." The Soviets promised these people that if they returned to the Ukraine they would get more and better land and the best and most modern machinery with which to work that land. This was extremely tempting to the people in Slovakia, who had to work very hard and do everything by hand to gain a comfortable living. Their land was stony and machinery could not be used for farming.
2. Eighty-two families in Toriski, Czechoslovakia, signed up for emigration. However, the first group to leave consisted of only fifteen families. Most of the families took everything along with them to the new country: clothes, furniture, food, and seed for planting. Mirohovtse was one of the Ukrainian villages where they settled. A short time after their arrival in the Ukraine, they were forced to sell their possessions to buy food, including the grain they had brought along for seed. The emigres were billeted in homes whose occupants had not yet been evacuated to other parts of the country by the government. This created an intense hatred at first. Moreover, the people suspected the new emigres of being spies who were being settled in the Western Ukraine by the Soviets. Soon all realized that they were equally mistreated and their hatred remained only against the regime. The emigres were accepted both by the local population and by the UPA. The Russians hated the emigres and accused them of being American spies when they wanted to return to Czechoslovakia.
3. The new emigres wrote home to friends and relatives in Slovakia, even before reaching their destination, about the conditions across the Ukrainian border. The newcomers had never seen such poverty and hardship anywhere in Czechoslovakia, and they warned the folks back home not to leave their comfortable and peaceful land. Robberies and killings were so numerous in 1947, when the new emigres arrived, that people feared to go to bed at night.

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