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APPENDIX 'B'

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INFORMATION ON PRIMORSKY KRAY

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1. Introduction

The information in this Appendix concerns that part of PRIMORSKY KRAY contained in the area between the Manchurian border and the western shores of lake KHANKA.

2. Terrain

The area described is hilly country, much of it still covered with dense almost impenetrable primeval deciduous and coniferous forests. The hills attain heights of up to 600 metres though the average height is approx 100 - 150 metres above sea level. The rock formation is grey stratified sandstone.

The countryside is intersected by numerous river valleys which on their low ground are marshy and swampy making access to the rivers themselves often impossible.

Towards lake KHANKA the terrain becomes more flat and changes into marshy meadows.

3. Rivers

The largest of the numerous rivers and streams are the MO, TAKHEYASH and LEFU which flow into lake KHANKA.

/Most of ...

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Most of the rivers have marshy banks and overflow in the spring and especially during the heavy autumn rains.

The TAKHEYASH is slow moving, at its deepest 5 metres and its widest breadth 10 - 15 metres.

There are few bridges, mostly the rivers are forded and present little obstacle. Stone bridges cross the river on most main roads and iron bridges over the railway lines.

In winter (December to mid March) the rivers and lake KHANKA freeze up.

Lake KHANKA, a salt water lake, is not more than 10 - 15 metres deep.

Generally the rivers are used for the disposal of refuse.

4. Vegetation and Agriculture

Vegetation is abundant and among the deciduous trees lime and oak are most prevalent, but also maple, beech, ash, aspen, poplar, birch and cork oak are seen.

The coniferous trees comprise pine, spruce, fir, yew and on the higher slopes also cedar. Forestry is little practiced.

In the collective farms the main crops are wheat, oats, soya beans, root crops, sugar beet, potatoes and other vegetables, in that order.

In the lowlands towards lake KHANKA much rice is also cultivated.

Large areas are meadows which produce good crops of hay.

In the lake KHANKA area there are many fishery kolkhozi.

A fair proportion of the collective farms are cattle farms, but there are also sheep and pig farms.

There are very few horses in the area. Most of the agricultural work is done by tractors, of which there is a sufficient number.

The absence of sufficient natural manure makes itself felt in diminishing yields, as no improvement of the soil by artificial fertilizers is undertaken or is boycotted by the obstinacy and laziness of the farm workers.

The irony of planning is reflected in the failure of harvesting the grain crop. The sowing of grain is fulfilled according to plan. However, the planted area is too big to be harvested in time due mainly to the absence of suitable harvesting machinery, which cannot cope with the harvest in the limited time before the autumn rains set in. In consequence every year much grain is lost, despite the fulfilment of the sowing plan and although the schoolchildren are directed to harvest work.

In the area east of lake KHANKA there is more farmland and there are more kolkhozi.

/5. Climate ...S E C R E T

S E C R E T

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5. Climate

On the average the area has a moderate climate, being protected in the west by the mountain ranges of CHANG KWANSI and the adjoining highland and in the east by the SIKHOTELIN range.

The winter starts late and lasts from December to March. The average temperatures are 25° F although temperatures of 10° below zero have been known when the north winds have swept over the plains of lake KHANKA. February is the coldest month. Most rivers and lake KHANKA freeze up, but there is little snowfall. There are no spring floods.

Early spring is dry, sowing starts towards end of March, May and June have a fair amount of rain, July is hot and dry. 1947 was a year of famine when, due to prolonged absence of rain in the area, there were no crops whatsoever.

In August however there are torrential rains, lasting 20 minutes each day, which destroy the grain crops if still left in the fields. These August rains cause heavy floods each year. 1950 was a particularly bad year when almost the whole area from IMAN to VLADIVOSTOK was inundated, disorganising the whole transport network and doing a lot of damage. The town of VOROSHILOV suffered particularly

The autumn is dry and warm and lasts into November, by which time the soya crop is still harvested, though often has to remain over the winter because it does not ripen.

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6. Industry

[redacted]
In SPASSK are large cement works, in VOROSHILOV the MIKOYAN oil mill Kombinat, tanneries and a large modern shoe factory, which was transferred from China after the last war.

Coal mining is the main industry in this area, followed by logging. There are large coalfields which are being developed and whose output is ever increasing since the end of the last war.

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- [redacted]
- (a) The LIPOVSKI coalfield produces [redacted] the best quality lignite of grey steel-like appearance, highly inflammable, of high calorific value and leaving a large percentage of grey ash.
 - (b) VOROSHILOVSKY coalfields producing a brown coal which is regarded as of inferior quality and which must be made wet before using.
 - (c) ARTEMOVSKY coalfields, north of VLADIVOSTOK, producing brown coal.
 - (d) TAVRICHANSKY coalfield.
 - (e) SUCHANSKY coalfields, 60 miles east of VLADIVOSTOK, which produce anthracite and other good quality coal.

/7. Railways ...S E C R E T

S E C R E T

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7. Railways

The main MOSCOW-VLADIVOSTOK line dominates the railway network of this area. This line is double tracked. All stations have sufficient sidings to allow unhindered through traffic. Goods traffic is heavy and the permanent way is well maintained.

The railway network is continually enlarged by building branch lines.

The railway junction of GRODEKOVO is particularly enlarged. In 1949 there were 7 sidings, in Aug 51 there were 22 and the work of expansion was still going on.

When the extension of the railway junction started in early 1951, it was planned to have it completed in two years; however, now the work is urged on day and night and will be completed by Nov 52.

A similar junction is being built at the station BARANO-ORENBURGSKOYE.

[redacted] particularly heavy goods traffic in GRODEKOVO in Aug 51, Military supplies and equipment, oil, coal and coke going to China and railway sleepers, logs and soya beans coming from China. At present GRODEKOVO is the main transit border station for leave personnel of the KWANTUNG army.

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There were rumours that the railway line to KWANTUNG inside China was to be serviced by Russian troops. It is also intended to have the direct railway line from CHITA to KWANTUNG completed and in use by the middle of 1952.

[redacted] the railway tracks inside China are now either Russian gauge or have a third rail as no change-over is made on Soviet territory.

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At present main railway traffic over GRODEKOVO station is military.

Railway locomotives used on the trains passing through GRODEKOVO are SU type, all of which are coal-fired; usually 2 locomotives pull trains of 60 - 70 wagons.

During the war the FED type locomotive was also used.

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8. Roads

The network of roads between localities where military units were stationed was good.

[redacted] the following roads [redacted] "first class" (Kapitalniye):-

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VOROSHILOV - GRODEKOVO
 VOROSHILOV - POLTAVKA
 VOROSHILOV - UGOLNAYA - KRASKINA
 VOROSHILOV - KAMEN RYBOLOV
 VOROSHILOV - KHABAROVSK
 GRODEKOVO - KOMMISSAROVO
 GRODEKOVO - KHOROL - SPASSK

/VOROSHILOV - ...

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

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VOROSHILOV - OSINOVKA - IVANOVKA - ANUCHINO -
 CHUGUYEVKA - SOCHAN
 MANSOVKA - NOVOSOSEYEVKA - YAKOVLEVKA - SPASSK
 SPASSK - CHUGUYEVKA
 VLADIVOSTOK - SUCHAN
 SUCHAN - MAKHODKA
 MAKHODKA - SHKOTOVO
 VLADIMIRO ALEKSANDROVSK - UNASHI - CHUGUYEVKA
 VLADIMIRO ALEKSANDROVSK - SOKOLOVKA - OLGA.

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The width of the surfaced road was 10 - 12 metres.
 there were no verges.

The surface was gravel on a stone base enabling rains to seep away, thus making the roads passable in all weathers. The roads were cambered and there were ditches at the sides but no precise information was available. Roads were well maintained by local road maintenance units.

The roads were used almost exclusively by military traffic, including tanks.

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9. Population

The greater part of the population in this area are military, recruited from the Far Eastern province. They are mainly Russians, with a negligible addition of national minority groups.

There are in the less accessible parts certain tribes, viz NANAITSY and OUDECEITSY, who are regarded by the rest of the population as people apart with their own peculiar customs and little bothered by the Government. They are the original fur hunters and prospectors for gold and precious stones who live very primitively.

Their produce is bought from them in the hunters' trade union offices for bonds which they are entitled to exchange for goods in special shops, where goods are priced on a gold standard rate. Shops are found in the villages of GORDEYEVKA, NOVO-MOSKVA, ALEKSEYEVKA and others.

There are now no Chinese in the PRIMORSKY KRAY but up to 1938 they amounted to nearly half of the local population. By 1938 they were all resettled, mostly in KAZAKHSTAN.

New settlers are introduced from European Russia and settled on the kolkhozi. Between 1948-50 500 families were thus brought over. They were given sums of money from a special government fund, also better initial food supplies. The condition was that they had to stay in the Far Eastern region for at least 2 years.

The majority had decided that conditions in the Far East were better than in the areas from which they had been brought and now it was intended to enlarge this scheme.

Almost 50% of the troops serving in the Far Eastern region decide after demobilization to settle there, marry locally or bring their families to live there.

/10. Military ...S E C R E T

S E C R E T

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10. Military administration and defence belts

The Far East of the USSR is divided into 3 Military Districts, viz ZABAIKAL, FAR EASTERN and PRIMORSKY

The C in C Far East, Marshal MALINOVSKI, has his HQ in Khabarovsk.

The PRIMORSKY Military District (HQ at VOROSHILOV), corresponding geographically with PRIMORSKY region, has 4 armies deployed in its territory, viz Fifth Army (HQ at SPASSK), Twentyfifth Army (HQ at SUCHAN), First Army (HQ at BLAGOVESHCHENSK) and ? Army (HQ at KYANTUNG).

Lower formations of the Fifth Army are the LXV Corps with HQ in GRODEKOVO, and XVII Corps with HQ in SHKOTOVO.

Subordinate to LXV Corps is the 22 Airborne Inf Division, the 187 Inf Div (now stationed on the NAKHODKA peninsula), the 17 and 18 Inf Div (HQ in LESAZAVODSK).

Directly subordinate to the Commander of Defence Belts at the HQ PRIMORSKY Military District, except for military training and operations, which were directed by LXV Corps, were the 9 Indep MG Division (HQ at GRODEKOVO) and 10 Indep MG Division (HQ at KONSTANTINOVKA).

The 9 Indep MG Division was made up of three Indep MG Regts, viz 25, 27 and 29, one Med Tank and SP Regt, the 1116 Hy How Regt, Indep Signals Bn, Engineer Bn, AA Bn and MF Bn.

Over the same district are also deployed units of 9 Air Army with HQ in VOZDVIZHENKA. [redacted] the airfields [redacted] seen in this area were all surfaced with a special grass which did not grow higher than 8". It was called American Pyrei (Amerikanski Pyrei) and was a kind of oats (Bezkhvostny ovyos).

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A further sub-division of the PRIMORSKY Military District is into Defence Belt Districts of which Informant knows:-

- (a) KHASANSKI - with HQ in KRASKINO
- (b) POLTAVSKI - with HQ in KONSTANTINOVKA
- (c) SLAVYANSKI - with HQ in SLAVYANKA
- (d) (105 district) GRODEKOVSKI with HQ in GRODEKOVO
- (e) IMANSKI - with HQ in either IMAN or LESAZAVODSK.

These defence belts extend from the international border to a depth of approx 22 Km.

On both sides of the international border is a 100 metre wide no-man's-land with all the trees felled and the ground ploughed up.

In the first zone 1 - 2 Km deep only permanent border troops of the MGB are stationed.

A permanent post of border troops consists of 70 men in charge of a Lt, with a complement of horses and Alsatian dogs. The roads along the border are patrolled by mounted guards, the ground between the roads by sentries with watchdogs.

/These troops ...

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S E C R E T

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These troops have an administration of their own and are independent of the local army units.

No trespassing in this 2 Km zone is permitted.

The second zone, 5 Km wide, 2 - 7 Km distant from the frontier, is the fortified defence belt. No civilians are allowed to settle in this area and no building occupied by the military has any windows facing the border. This area is also prohibited to military personnel unless in possession of special passes issued for a special purpose. Any farming in these zones is done by occupying troops.

The fortifications consist of a double chain of defensive constructions consisting of:-

- (f) DOT - Gun Permanent Firing Point (Pushchnaya dolgovremennaya ognevaya tochka) (see Annexe 1).
- (g) DOT - MG Permanent Firing Point (Pulemyotnaya dolgovremennaya ognevaya tochka).
- (h) DZOT - MG Gun Emplacement (Derevo-zemlenaya ognevaya tochka iliya Pulomyota). The top is covered by 2 - 3 rows of tree trunks 8 - 12 in. in diameter and 6 - 9 ft. of earth and stones. The side walls are laid out with stones. Crew 1 Comdr and 2 ORs.
- (i) KOLPAK - Pillbox of reinforced concrete. 1 OR plus MG.
- (j) Dug-in tank. MS1 (Maly Sovietsky Tank) or Japanese tanks. Gun and engine are removed. Crew of 2, or 5 per two tanks.
- (k) SOTKA - "Jack in the Box". The walls are of concrete, entrance through a tunnel. The top is a camouflaged metal lid, which can be raised. A double-barrelled MG is used. Crew of one.

All SOTKI, dug-in tanks, pillboxes, DZOTY and DOTY are centrally connected by telephone lines, which are laid on the ground.

Mortar positions are outside the DOTY and supplies of mortar bombs are kept stored in the DOTY.

Each DOT was surrounded by fourfold barbed wire entanglements which could be electrified by power generated in the DOT.

Outside the barbed wire perimeter were static flame-throwers which were operated from within the DOT. These flame-throwers had containers 2 metres long and 150 cm in diameter. The flames extended to approx 150 metres and lasted for several minutes. Each of the flame-throwers had 15 - 20 cylinders (fuel containers).

Within the perimeter of the gun DOTs were open mortar pits, intended as alternative firing power.

The gun fortifications have every technical aid required and need only aircraft to complete their technical outfit. The equipment was progressively improved during the war, as experience from the western fronts was passed on.

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/The crews ...

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The crews have special protective clothing and a supply of 2 months' rations.

DOTs [redacted] the estimates for building gun [redacted] amounted to one million roubles per DOT.

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The gun fortifications have as their armament 2, some have 4 (two of which fired to the rear), 76 cm. guns of L17 type, which [redacted] are only used in fortifications. These guns are coupled with 2 MGs. The ammunition is supplied by power-operated hoists. The power unit is a L2 Dynamo, also called "M-orisky", driven by a petrol engine. One motor is used for the gun mechanism, ammunition hoist, lighting and air-purifying plant, another for electrifying the barbed wire perimeter.

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50X1-HUM

Each gun or MG DOT had its own water-wall.

The living quarters are on the floor below the gun emplacements. Bunks were on chains and could be hoisted to the ceiling when not in use.

On a floor below the living quarters was the ammunition store.

The DOTs are connected with each other by a system of underground passages.

Some DOTs are adapted to the existing rock formations.

Amongst the fortification constructions are quite a number of "dummy" gun positions, but also gun positions camouflaged as dwelling houses.

Large scale exercises involving the belt of fortifications are held in the spring and even larger combined exercises in the autumn.

At no time are more than half of the troops in the defence fortifications away at a time.

Since the beginning of the Korean war, the defence fortifications have been permanently occupied.

In the third zone extending between 7 Km and 22 Km from the frontier civilians are allowed to settle, but are specially screened as to their political reliability and possess special passes.

If any resident outside the frontier zone wants to visit a resident within the zone, he must apply for a visa at his local militia passport office giving full details of the resident within the zone. The resident within the zone also applies to his local militia for permission to have a visitor, giving all the details of the visitor. He then obtains a pass (vzovka) which is sent to the militia at the visitor's place of residence. A stamp having 3 divisions for the different zones is stamped on the last page of the passport and must be produced at the train document check.

Military personnel expecting visitors from outside the frontier zone must apply similarly through military channels.

On lake KHANKA, based on TURIY ROG, is a naval unit with gun boats, each 12 - 15 metres long with one gun and one MG as armaments.

/11. Civilian ...SECRET

S E C R E T

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11. Civilian administration

The "PRIMORSKY KRAY" is formed by 48 districts, most of which are named after the town in which the district office is located.

The district committee of the VKP (b) (RAIKOM) is for all practical purposes the governing body to which all other economic, cultural and local government offices are subordinated.

The RAIKOM in turn was subordinate to the KRAIKOM (regional party committee) with its seat for the PRIMORSKY KRAY in VLADIVOSTOK

The first secretary of the RAIKOM is appointed by the Central Committee in MOSCOW, of which he is a member, but to show that the party is democratic he is also elected locally into the KRAIKOM.

The second and third secretaries were party officials appointed by the KRAIKOM. For their positions they are coached on 6-monthly courses and have to attend a monthly refresher course once a year.

The district committee (RAIKOM) has its District Executive Committee (RAIISPOLKOM) made up of the chairman and 2 deputies and specialist sections which cover every phase of communal life and constitute an army of non-productive officials (contemptuously called "NAKHLEBNIKI").

A show of apparent independence is made in the election of the representatives on the executive committee (RAIISPOLKOM) of the chairmen of kolkhozi, Syelsovieti and the judges of the people's court. The candidates are nominated by the appropriate party committee and are presented for local election in such a way that their election is assured.

In the KRAIKOM, besides the elected members are also all Commanders of Armies stationed in the region as well as the Commander of the Pacific Fleet, amongst others:-

Chief of HQ Far Eastern Command	- Gen.Col. BIRYUZOV
Chief of Staff	- Gen. ZAKHVATAYEV
	Gen.Col. SHLYKOV
Commander of Pacific Fleet	- Vice Admiral YUMISHEV
Commander of Coast Defence	- Gen.Col. SAKHAROV.

These large numbers of party officials receive a comparatively moderate salary, but enjoy privileges which enable them to buy commodities at low prices. This raises their living standard considerably in relation to non-party members and at the same time provides vast opportunities for black market and speculative activities, which are rife throughout the region through widespread bribery and corruption.

the following districts:-

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<u>District office located at:</u>	<u>Name of district:</u>
GRODEKOVO	GRODEKOVSKIY district
KHOROL	KHOROLSKIY "
KOMISAROVO	KOMISAROVSKIY "
POKROVKA	POLTAVSKIY "
ZALYONKI	MOLOTOVSKIY "
MIKHAILOVKA	MIKHAILOVSKIY "
VOROSHILOV	VOROSHILOVSKIY "
IVANOVKA	IVANOVSKIY "

/CHERNIGOVKA

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

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<u>District office located at:</u>	<u>Name of district:</u>
CHEMNIGOVKA	CHEMNIGOVSKIY district
SPASSK	SPASSKIY "
ANUCHINO	ANUCHINSKIY "
YAKOVLEVKA	YAKOVLEVSKIY "
CHUGUYEVKA	CHUGUYEVSKIY "
USEENKA	SEMAKOVSKIY
IMAN	KALININSKIY
SUCHAN	SUCHANSKIY
VLADIMIRA ALEKSANDROVSK	BUDYEVSKIY
SHKOTOVO	SHKOTOVSKIY
BARABASH	BARABASHSKIY
?	KHASANSKIY
OLGA	OLGOVSKIY
VLADIVOSTOK	VLADIVOSTOKSKIY

12. Living conditions of Military personnel

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(b) Accommodation

One of the worst aspects was the housing shortage.

The room [redacted] was in a 2-storey brick house, originally built for 4 families but due to the housing shortage occupied by 27 parties. His room measured approx 16 square metres and in addition he had a small balcony. A kitchen was shared between four parties, but because of disputes which the communal use of the kitchen involved the kitchen was used as a storage room and all the cooking was done in the rooms, either on a kerosene primus stove or on the coal fire in the stove.

(c) Furniture

The furniture consisted of one double bed (iron bedstead), 2 children's beds, one table and two chairs (supplied by the military), four bentwood chairs, one dresser and one bookshelf. One bed was folded away during the day. There was no wardrobe and no washstand.

/New furniture ...

S E C R E T

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New furniture was almost unobtainable and very expensive. It was the custom to buy the secondhand furniture of the outgoing tenant and likewise dispose of one's own when posted away. 50X1-HUM

On paper, the KECh unit is supposed to supply the furniture entitlement for married quarters, but after the opulent requirements of the higher ranks are satisfied, no stocks for general distribution are available.

Furniture manufacture is almost non-existent. The few articles available are so shoddy that even at a reasonably cheap price they are unsaleable. The people are often content to do without.

The price of tools is so exorbitant that any desire to build one's own furniture is frustrated.

(d) Sanitation

There was outside sanitation next to the dwelling house, of the most primitive kind, serving all parties.

(a) Electricity

There was an electricity supply of 220 v. 50X1-HUM
one lamp only for which a flat rate of 8 roubles per month was charged. Electric apparatus was not used as it was deemed too expensive.

(f) Water Supply

No running water supply was laid on. Water had to be fetched in buckets from the water tower near the railway station (approx 300 yards away) and was charged for at 15 copecks per bucket.

The KECh (army supply services) had a watercart delivering water to the families of high-ranking officers only.

In the mornings when everybody fetched water there were always queues, entailing a wait of at least 20 minutes.

During the winter the water pipes often froze and there were queues of 50 - 60 people.

The officers' quarters of the HQ staff of the LXV Corps are particularly badly off for water. They have to fetch their water from a point 2 Km away from their quarters. At 0500 hours the queues were already forming and more often than not the supply of water gave out before their needs could be filled.

Laundry is washed at the public laundry or on the river banks; in the winter in the rooms.

(g) Public Baths

The public baths are open only on 2 days per week, one day reserved for females, one for men.

The charge for the use of the baths is 2 roubles per person.

The same applies to the KECh baths.

/(h) FuelSECRET

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(h) Fuel

For cooking and heating purposes coal was used.

To begin with most stoves in the military married quarters had to be modified as they burned a disproportionate amount of fuel.

Coal costs 86 roubles per ton and in the winter 2 tons per month are required. The quality of the coal was invariably poor, so that even before storing it in an outside shed it was passed through a sieve, and half of it was earth and stones.

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Coal was supplied by the KECh unit, a fixed ration at about half the price paid locally (40 roubles per ton). However, delivery of coal to married quarters was strictly according to military rank. By the time it was the lower ranks' turn to receive their ration the weather had turned cold and alternative supplies had to be organised.

The transport pool for the delivery of fuel was run on "planned" lines. If the petrol consumption for the month had been exhausted, no coal could be delivered for the rest of the month, and again the lower ranks were the chief sufferers.

In addition to coal, firewood was purchased. The monthly quantity required was $\frac{1}{2}$ cubic metre at 21 roubles. As, during the winter, wood supplies and transport were short, it was customary to go out at night and steal wood. The neighbours knew of these nightly expeditions simply because they also went out on them and this common conspiracy prevented each other from exposing the plot.

(i) Rent

The rent paid for a room approx 16 square metres amounted to 21 roubles per month.

(j) Food Rations

Soviet Army officers ordered their foodstuffs from the bulk stores, who delivered once a month at current prices. The sole advantage was that most ordered items were available and no queuing in the local shops was necessary.

For fresh milk and bread supplies coupons were purchased which were exchanged when the daily delivery took place.

The following is a typical monthly order for a Soviet Army Lt's family of four persons:-

10 Kg millet	@ 3.50	Roubles per Kg		
5 Kg flour	@ 8.00	"	"	"
5 Kg barley	@ 6.00	"	"	"
2 Kg rice	@ 18.00	"	"	"
5 Kg sugar	@ 6.00	"	"	"
2 Kg fat	@ 21.00	"	"	"
1 Kg butter	@ 56.00	"	"	"
6 Kg meat (salted)	@ 25.00	"	"	"
5 Kg fish (salted)	@ 15.00	"	"	"
2 Kg herrings (salted)	@ 7.00	"	"	"
1 Kg tea	@ 60.00	"	"	"
20 Kg bread	@ 1.80	"	"	"
30 litres milk	@ 2.00	"	"	litre
1 Kg sweet biscuits	@ 21.00	"	"	Kg

/Other ...

SECRET

S E C R E T

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Other food prices were:-

White bread	- 4 - 5 Roubles per Kg
Sausage	- 20 - 70 Roubles per Kg
Bar of chocolate	- 20 Roubles
Bottle of Vodka	- 25 Roubles
Eggs	- 2 Roubles each
Cigarettes	- 2.50 Roubles for 25

Vegetables:-

Kg potatoes	- 2.00 Roubles
" tomatoes	- 1.00 "
" cucumbers	- 2.00 "
" cabbage	- 2.00 "
" onions	- 2 - 4 "
" pickled cabbage	- 1.50 "
Washing soap (200 gr)	- 2.00 Roubles
Toilet soap (1 bar)	- 5.00 "

(k) Compulsory deductions from earnings

Taking the average pay of 2,000 Roubles per month of an Army officer with a wife and two children, the following compulsory deductions are made by the State:-

State loan	- Rs 400.-	(Usually requested to subscribe $\frac{1}{10}$ of 2 months' salary.)
Income Tax	- 156.-	
No children tax	- 6%	
One child tax	- 1%	
Two children tax	- $\frac{1}{2}$ %	- 10.-
Party membership fees	3%	
Compulsory subscription to newspapers	- 25.-	

(l) Other regular expenditure

Disposal of refuse by KECh	- 10.- Roubles per month
Haircut	- 2.- Roubles
Public baths	- 2.- Roubles

(m) Clothing

Taking into account the above expenditure, very little money is left for clothing and household goods.

The officer is issued with:-

One overcoat	- to last 3 years
One cap	- " " 5 "
One uniform	- " " 3 "
One set winter underwear	- " " 2 "
One summer uniform	- " " 1 year
Two sets of summer underwear	- " " 1 "
Material for one pair of trousers	- " " 1 "
One pair of high boots	- " " 8 months.

All repairs and replacements have to be paid for in full.

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/For the ...

S E C R E T

- B14 -

For the children's clothing, the fathers' cast-off uniform is made use of.

On the whole the army is more slovenly dressed than the troops in Germany. The saying is: "KAK I KOLKHOZNIK TAK I SOLDAT" (Soldiers are dressed like collective farmers).

(n) Recreation

[redacted] Staff officers and higher ranks were the only officers to get regular leave. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

[redacted] off time [redacted] spent at home, reading or pottering about the vegetable garden. The latter was discouraged for military personnel as it was claimed that the army provided sufficient for their officers to live on.

[redacted] went to the cinema once per month (price of ticket - 5 roubles) but could not afford to go to a visiting theatre show (price of ticket - 15 Roubles) or walk in the municipal garden (entrance fee 2 Roubles, open air dancing - 5 Roubles) even once per month.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

The habit of visiting or receiving guests was not practised because the hosts would be put out to provide a meal. On national holidays such as the 1st May or the celebration of the October Revolution, which takes place in November, neighbours might arrange a party, each one contributing in kind and taking their cutlery with them to the party.

The conscript soldier who is paid 30 Roubles per month and is not allowed to have his family live with him, has little off time for recreation. Supper is at 2000 hours and little is left than to spend the rest of the night sleeping. His pay is spent on goods for personal use bought from mobile army shops.

Even his "off" day is planned for him by the Zampolit who will arrange organised visits to the cinema, football matches, swimming or other sports. Favourite indoor games are chess and dominoes. Card playing is officially prohibited.

The national games are football and netball. The military personnel also practised athletics, which serves as a preparation to obtain the GTO badge (GOTOVKA K TRUDU I OBORONY), showing efficiency grading at all round sport, which all military personnel were compelled to obtain.

(o) Cleanliness

The army discipline ensures that one weekly bath is taken, and this applies also to officers. However, bed-bugs are in every house, even in the best and most modern. There is a periodical spring cleaning when bedding and furniture are taken outside and boiling water poured over each item, but bed-bugs are persistent and have to be tolerated despite these measures.

/(p) Public Health ...S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- B15 -

(p) Public Health

On the whole the military are healthy. It is not customary for a doctor to visit a patient at his home. If one was ill, one reported at the hospital and the degree of illness was established there. [redacted]

TB is the most widespread cause of death, besides abortions amongst women. [redacted] the former could be easily overcome if sufficient medicines were available.

50X1-HUM

Informant had not heard of the prevalence of malaria or VD.

[redacted] There was only one mental hospital in the region - in VOROSHILOV, Plekhanovskaya 15.

50X1-HUM

The standard of nutrition was adequate, bearing in mind the limitations of the Soviet range of foodstuffs.

The following anecdote will give a truer picture:-

At a mealtime inspection a General was asking the troops if they were receiving sufficient food. "Yes" was the answer "and there is still some left over". "And what do you do with the food left over?". "We eat that as well!" (Poyedayem!).

(q) Morals

Drunkenness is very prevalent amongst the military personnel and is responsible for most charges and failings.

[redacted] the case of Lt. KHANDOBIN, a gypsy who was in command of a permanent MG defence post. The Chief of Staff, Lt.Col. KOLESNIKOV, who was also a gypsy, favoured KHANDOBIN and made him HQ Comdt (approx equivalent to OC HQ Coy) but soon found him unfitted for the position as he lacked intelligence and polish. KHANDOBIN realised his shortcomings and took to drinking. KHANDOBIN's wife, who was employed as a typist with the MGB, had him arrested when on one occasion, while he was drunk, he threatened to kill her. He was charged with an offence against his 12 year old servant girl at the instigation of his wife and sentenced to 10 years hard labour on the NAKHODKA peninsula.

50X1-HUM

(r) Privileges of higher ranks

The higher ranking military are the privileged classes of the Soviet society and, although their abuses of their ranks were well known amongst the rest of the population, nothing could be done about it and they had to be tolerated.

The Commander of the 9 Indep MG Division in GRODEKOVO until 1948, Gen.Maj. SHURSHIN, had two sons who attended the 10 class school in GRODEKOVO. Amongst fellow pupils they were known to be lazy and dunces, yet at the end of the year when the examining commission sat, they received excellent reports after the commission had been approached by the General's wife.

When the older boy had to report for military service, the father used his influence so that his son was made a Jun.Lt and was attached as Komsomol Secretary to a regiment in his father's Division.

/By the ...

S E C R E T

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By the end of the war he was promoted to Lt and obtained a post as adjutant at the HQ. As such he received his share of medals.

It was his father's influence which made his son's early demobilisation possible. He remained at home until his father arranged through a Capt TIKHONENKO, propaganda officer in Divisional HQ, for his son to enter the Institute for Diplomats in MOSCOW. Capt TIKHONENKO, who had good connections at the institute was given 2 months leave and sent with the General's son to MOSCOW in order to smooth his acceptance at the institute. However, the son failed the entrance exam and was pushed into some commercial undertaking, where he was soon promoted to the managerial board in return for a large sum of money paid by his father.

Maj.Gen. SHURSHIN and his wife operated in the currency black market on a large scale and when the General was posted to CHITA in 1948, [redacted] had to change 2 bags full of small money into 100 Rouble notes amounting to 250,000 Roubles, the proceeds of the wife's black market activities.

50X1-HUM

As a result of the war with Japan in China the high-ranking military returned with wagon loads of looted commercial goods which in the post-war years were gradually sold at high profit at the bazaar. The furnishing of their houses was also to a large extent from the proceeds of looting in China.

Another remunerative source of income of the higher ranks comes from the unit farms (Podsobniye Khozaistva) which supply primarily the officers' families. Besides the preferential shares of available commodities the higher ranks receive, most of them have their own cattle and pigs which are kept at the expense of the farm and disposed of privately.

All these machinations of the higher ranks are known. Now and again an investigating commission will arrive, and during their prolonged stay are well looked after and entertained with the result that seldom any shortcomings in the management of the unit farms are established.

Another source of lucrative income is the privilege accorded to high-ranking personnel to buy large quantities of consumer goods and foodstuffs at the base stores at very low prices. These goods are then resold at a high profit through middlemen at the bazaars.

13. Living conditions of civilians

Military families account for 50% of the civilian population in the area.

Of the rest 50% are collective farm workers, and the remainder local and regional government employees, railway employees and civilian employees of military units.

There is no local industry worth mentioning. Most tradesmen are represented in the military or municipal trading centres, where they are salaried employees. In more specialised trades, e.g. a stove setter, individuals still work on their own account.

Sexes are about equal, but younger people predominates.

/The collective ...

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S E C R E T

- B17 -

The collective farm workers are regarded by the military as "speculators" because their main income is derived from selling their produce to the military. Because of the proximity of the garrisons, they have a better market than other collective farms.

Yet despite this reproach their standard of life is the lowest imaginable. The huts they live in are a marked contrast to the rest of the houses, long overdue for repairs for which the means are not available. It is a rare exception for a family, and the average family comprises 7 members, to share more than one room. Most of the original peasant houses, which were built for one family, have been divided to accommodate one more family. Only the barest furniture is available.

There is no recreation for the collective farm worker, who works from sunrise to sunset and spends the remaining hours sleeping.

Most collective farm workers wear cast off military clothing purchased from soldiers, as they never have sufficient money to buy new clothes.

Much of the poverty is due to the absence of male collective farm workers as a result of losses during the war and conscription.

The most common foods and the cheapest are potatoes and salted herrings, cabbage soup (SHCHI) and beans.

Most of the civilian population derives its income catering to the needs of the military. In this, party members and local officials are at an advantage for they have the facilities to buy agricultural produce at the minimum State prices from the collective farm and they sell the produce in the bazaar at a large profit. The militia and the local judiciary are all involved in this scheme to make a profit so, in fact, there are no authorities to which complaints of these abuses could be directed. Even though their wages are small, the advantages of being able to purchase at special cheap rates and getting their party uniforms free of charge enables them to live at a standard higher than any non-party man, however much the latter may earn.

The only people in GRODEKOVO who had motor cars were the secretary of the district committee and the chairman of the executive committee, who had official cars at their disposal. No other civilian cars were in evidence.

[redacted] a woman 57 years old, was a war widow with 5 children (her husband, a shoemaker, was posted as missing during the war). Because of some irregularity in the notification of her husband's death, she does not receive a war widow's pension, but draws the sum of 280.- Roubles per month on behalf of her children from public assistance funds, a sum which is not enough to live on. To supplement her income [redacted] keeps a cow for which a certain quantity of milk has to be surrendered to the State for a nominal sum, also an amount of meat in addition to 500 Roubles taxes per year.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

Despite the high taxes and dues in kind it was still considered profitable to keep a cow, especially as supplementary food value for children.

/The mother-in-law ...

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- B18 -

[redacted] lived with her children, [redacted] in one room, about 14 square metres, for which she paid the local authorities 20 Roubles per month.

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50X1-HUM

All her furniture consisted of was one bed and 2 chairs. She also had a sewing machine which her husband had bought for her. The children had no permanent sleeping space, but slept anywhere and anyhow.

She has not been able to buy any new clothes for the children but makes do with old cast off clothes, which she obtains cheaply.

The children grow up without any parental control, most of the time fending for themselves. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

On an average the families are of 7 members or more.

There are not enough school facilities, which to be adequate should be multiplied threefold. The 7-class elementary schools are free, but fees have to be paid for higher education from 8 - 10 class schools. School classes are large, because of the shortage of suitable school premises. The attendance at most schools is in 2 shifts (morning and afternoon).

Parents or teachers have little say in the selection of pupils for trade schools. The town administration is told by the district administration to find a certain number of pupils to fill the vacancies in the trade schools and the selection is made from the register of population in a haphazard fashion, little attention being paid to the suitability of the individual. Hence the frequency of children absconding from trade schools, where it is said they are being worked very hard.

The ambition of a young man is to learn a trade, and success means to him the earning of more money, enabling him to live better.

To a young woman the objective is to get married and bear children.

There are three classes in Soviet society:-

1. Soviet worker (sovietsky rabotchi)
2. Agricultural workers (Truzheniki polsi)
3. Soviet intelligentsia (sovietskaya intelligentsiya)

yet the elite group in Soviet society is composed of the high party functionaries.

Alcoholism is very widespread and only kept in confines by the general lack of money. Thieving is also prevalent but the culprits are never caught and it is commonly believed that the militia is working hand in hand with the criminals. As a rule the military personnel is blamed for all crime. Armed robbery and murder are rare.

[redacted] a poor labourer took some oats from a field which had not been harvested because of early snowfalls. The quantity was negligible but some neighbour saw him taking it home and informed the militia. He was arrested and sentenced to 7 years hard labour for stealing "socialist" property. He appealed to MOSCOW against his sentence and was released after one year, but had to leave the district.

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[redacted] only 2 cases of suicide amongst the local population in the 9 years [redacted]

50X1-HUM

One winter an employee, a family man with 4 children, was dismissed from his job and told to vacate the room which he occupied. He was given a week to find another job and other accommodation, which he failed to do. The militia arrived in order to evict him by force but he punched the militia, then looked himself in, wrote a farewell letter and hanged himself. Soon afterwards the family was deported and not heard of again.

The other case concerned a girl cashier who was involved as a witness in a court case concerning a municipal restaurant which had a surplus of 150,000 Roubles. This money had accumulated over one year through the watering down of vodka, which in turn was necessitated, as put forward by the defence, through the non-payment for drinking bouts by party and municipal officials. The chief accountant and storekeeper were each sentenced to 15 years hard labour. The girl, worn out by the lengthy court case, hanged herself.

14. Attitude towards war

[redacted] it is generally realised in the Far East that preparations for a new war are going on. 50X1-HUM

For the last 2 years propaganda in the Soviet newspapers has been intensified and even the history of the 1917/18 years is being warmed up.

It is also realised that it is politicians who are responsible for starting the war and they will decide without considering the wish of the people.

It was generally believed that the Korean war originated in the way the Soviet newspapers had indicated at the time. The people generally believed that the USSR had an agreement with Korea to provide economic and technical help but that with China there is a full agreement, including military assistance, and if China became involved in the war, the Soviet Union would join in.

The opinion is widely held that the war would start in the East and end in the West and that if the same tactics are employed as in the last war, the aggressor will lose.

[redacted] the Soviet people would defend their country against any aggressor, unless they were conditioned beforehand by enemy propaganda, in spite of the fact that the Soviet people consider themselves to have been cheated after the last war. None of the promises made when victory was in sight have been kept. The 5 year plan has not produced what was hoped for; instead less and less commodities are available. There has been no return to pre-war price levels. 50X1-HUM

There is a general war weariness, but Soviet propaganda is hammering away that in case of war the Soviet people will not be on their own, that there will be insurrections in the Western countries, where conditions caused by hunger, poverty and unemployment are steadily deteriorating.

/On the other ...

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S E C R E T

- B20 -

On the other hand, they are told, conditions in the Eastern bloc countries are improving, the Soviet Union has made great sacrifices, in order that these countries can live, and if their independence is threatened help must be given by the Soviet Union.

With regard to the attitude towards the Chinese and Japanese, the Soviets have not much confidence in the Chinese as efficient soldiers, but there still persists a big hatred against the Japanese resulting from the 1920/1 years and they are still commonly referred to as monkeys (MAKAKI).

50X1-HUM

15 Attitude towards propaganda

[redacted] the majority of [redacted] citizens believed the official propaganda with which they were fed.

50X1-HUM

Even in glaring cases in which doubt was the reaction, the latter could not be sustained because of the absence of proof to the contrary.

Within the Soviet Union there are no means to form an unbiased opinion and it was at all times dangerous to have or express an opinion contrary to the official propaganda line.

In [redacted] 1945 [redacted]

[redacted] official propaganda had been correct. The living conditions of the native Chinese population were even worse and their poverty greater than that of the Russians.

50X1-HUM
50X1-HUM

The Chinese displayed an attitude of respect and gratitude towards the Soviet Union and the Red Army was generally regarded as liberators, despite the large-scale looting which was going on. The war propaganda that the war was revenge for the defeat in 1905 and was waged to liberate China was generally believed.

Although the claims of Soviet propaganda that the pact with Germany was necessary to give the Soviet Union another year to make preparations for a defensive war was at first believed, the contradicting subsequent explanation of the sudden unexpected attack on the Soviet Union was treated with reserve. Further explanations that although Germany invaded the Soviet Union, it was only a temporary phase as the Communist party in Germany would seize power while the armed forces were out of the country, was believed only by optimists. Later on the comparative prosperity and higher standard in Germany was explained as due to looting and the slave labour of the PW, and this was usually believed.

It was also believed that the countries of Europe were experiencing oppression and hunger and for humanitarian reasons the USSR had to come to their rescue and liberate them.

After the war the propaganda said that the West was preparing for an attack on the Soviet Union, that the West had changed from being friends and turned foe. This was considered true.

[redacted] he realized that Soviet propaganda was a big fraud. Until then he had believed that conditions were deteriorating in the West. People returning from the West would tell of conditions they found there in very guarded language for fear of being arrested.

50X1-HUM

[redacted] most people in the Soviet Union believe the claims of the Soviet Union being the originators of scientific inventions.

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/Informant ...

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S E C R E T

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- B21 -

[REDACTED]

He had never met any foreigners and his impressions were formed from books he read. Thus:-

An Englishwoman was lanky and lean, cultured and well spoken but malicious and cold-natured.

A Frenchwoman like types portrayed by de MAUPASSANT and Emile ZOLA and

American speech - an unintelligible blether.

On the whole people do believe the propaganda, but are not sufficiently interested to decide as to its truth or otherwise.

16. Religion

The earliest memory [REDACTED] as a child was to watch his father and mother through a keyhole, kneeling and praying in front of an ikon in the adjoining room. Many a time afterwards he saw his mother weeping and he knew that it was in connection with the ikon. He cannot remember though ever having had religious instruction, or having had his interest roused in religious matters.

50X1-HUM

He does not remember ever having entered a church in Soviet Russia. He was quite content not to go to church like his friends, and going to church was regarded as a pastime of old people and those who remained old-fashioned. He knew that army personnel and members of the Komsomol and party were forbidden to go to church. Church and religion did not arouse his curiosity and as far as he and his friends were concerned their attitude was complete indifference. This he claims applies to his generation.

During the war efforts were made to revive religion, but [REDACTED] it did not have appreciable success.

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17. Anti-Semitism

[REDACTED]

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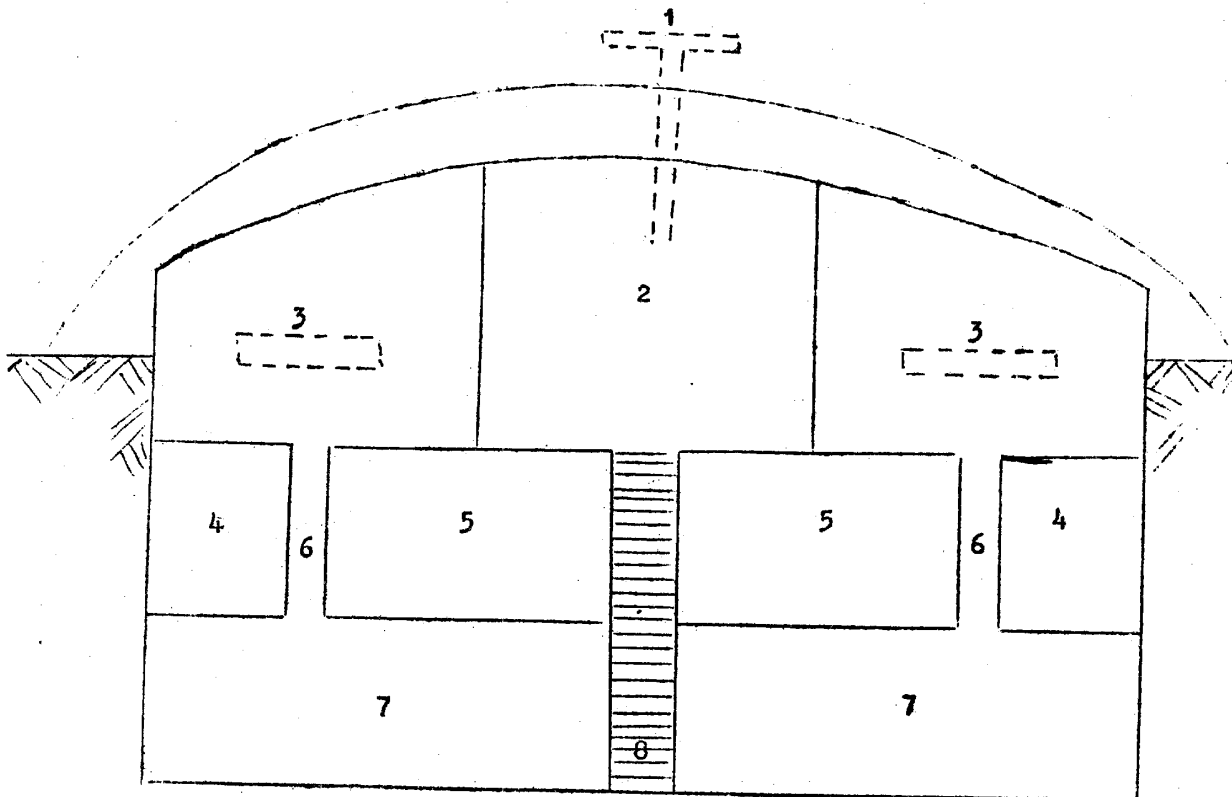
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ANNEXE 1 TO APPENDIX 'B'

50X1-HUM

SKETCH OF PERMANENT GUN FIRING POINT (DOT)

1. Range finder in position (can be pulled down)
2. Command post
3. Gun emplacements with gun openings
4. Engine rooms with air purifying plants
5. Living quarters for crew of 21
6. Ammunition hoists
7. Ammunition magazines
8. Stairs



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