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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT [REDACTED]  
CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea)

DATE DISTR. 23 September 1952

SUBJECT Ports of Odessa and Poti

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. 2  
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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2. While entering port [REDACTED] a small submarine about a half mile from the harbor entrance. It was surfacing and heading westward, slowly. [REDACTED] it was armed with a small cannon forward.

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3. During the stay in port several jet fighters were seen circling above and losing altitude in a southwesterly direction. It is possible that an airfield was located there.

4. The eastern part of the port was quite busy; almost all of the berths were occupied by ships of various flags. [REDACTED] looking down on the harbor from a bluff ashore, almost all the wharves were taken.

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5. The pier to which [REDACTED] ship made fast had three traveling cranes of three-to five-ton capacity. In the center there were two rail tracks which connected to the main tracks at the shore end of the pier. Here there was a linekeeper's house or a switch tower surrounded by a yard with numerous switches for shunting the freight cars. On the eastern side of the shore end there was a large pile of lumber as well as piles of cork slabs.

6. [REDACTED] there were insufficient freight cars. Rolling stock appeared to be in short supply. [REDACTED]

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STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB														
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI														

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7. The stevedores worked a twelve-hour shift and it was fairly obvious that there were not enough men. This shortage of manpower may have been more apparent because of the unusual port activity.

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8. The shoreline east of the harbor was low, with some reefs. However, hanging over it was a hill on which a radio station was located. A vehicular road runs along the slope of this hill while the railroad extends along the foot, close to the shore.

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10. The city appeared to have more soldiers than civilians and there was a scarcity of cars and trucks with US body types.

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11. Navigating from Odessa to Poti, the lights in the Sevastopol area did not have the characteristics shown in the coast pilot books. these same discrepancies existed in the Novorossiysk area.

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12. At a distance approximately 80 miles from Poti and 40 miles from the coast, coming from Odessa, observed at least four powerful searchlights which swept the area. The rather dark night clearly outlined these beams of light, which certainly must have come from searchlights which were situated on shore and spread over several miles.

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13. The harbor entrance at Poti was marked by a series of small lighted buoys. The pilot said that entry was impossible with a heavy sea from the west. Depths close inshore are not very great, the north part of the inner harbor has 23 feet alongside and the ship had to stay about 2.5 meters to be in 25 feet of water.

14.

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15. At the sea end of the small pier on the left entering the harbor, there was a high wooden booth, a sort of little tower resembling those used in prisoner camps and evidently a guard tower. An anti-submarine net extends from the end of the pier.

16. On attachment 2, the numbers as follows:

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(1) This quay had three bucket-cranes of ten-ton capacity which lifted the manganese partly from the pile at (7) and partly from the freight cars.

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Two of three cranes of the same type were on the quay.

(2) A medium tonnage Soviet ship, painted black. It was probably a Navy or a Navy-chartered ship because it was berthed on the south quay of the inner harbor, in the area believed to be a military reservation.

(3) A floating dry dock with an estimated capacity of 2,000 tons. A gunboat or possibly a destroyer escort was observed in the dock.

(4) About 20 small and medium submarines berthed along the breakwater and the east quay in the harbor. They appeared to be of older construction and were neither very neat nor trim.

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- (5) Four or five large torpedo boats, similar to the British MAS type.
- (6) Soviet passenger ship of more than 10,000 tons.
- (7) Manganese pile, about 500,000 to 700,000 tons.
- (8) Possibly a military reservation. There were many low lying buildings in the area.

- 17. Leaving Poti, [ ] some wooden towers with sentry booths similar to the one on the small pier in the harbor, only somewhat larger. These were located on the northern coast, a little inland from shore and some distance from the town. The coastline was flat and no other structure such as a barrack, camouflaged or hidden, was noted.
- 18. Outside the harbor there were two large searchlights, one north and the other south of the city and a bit inland from shore.

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Attachments: Two

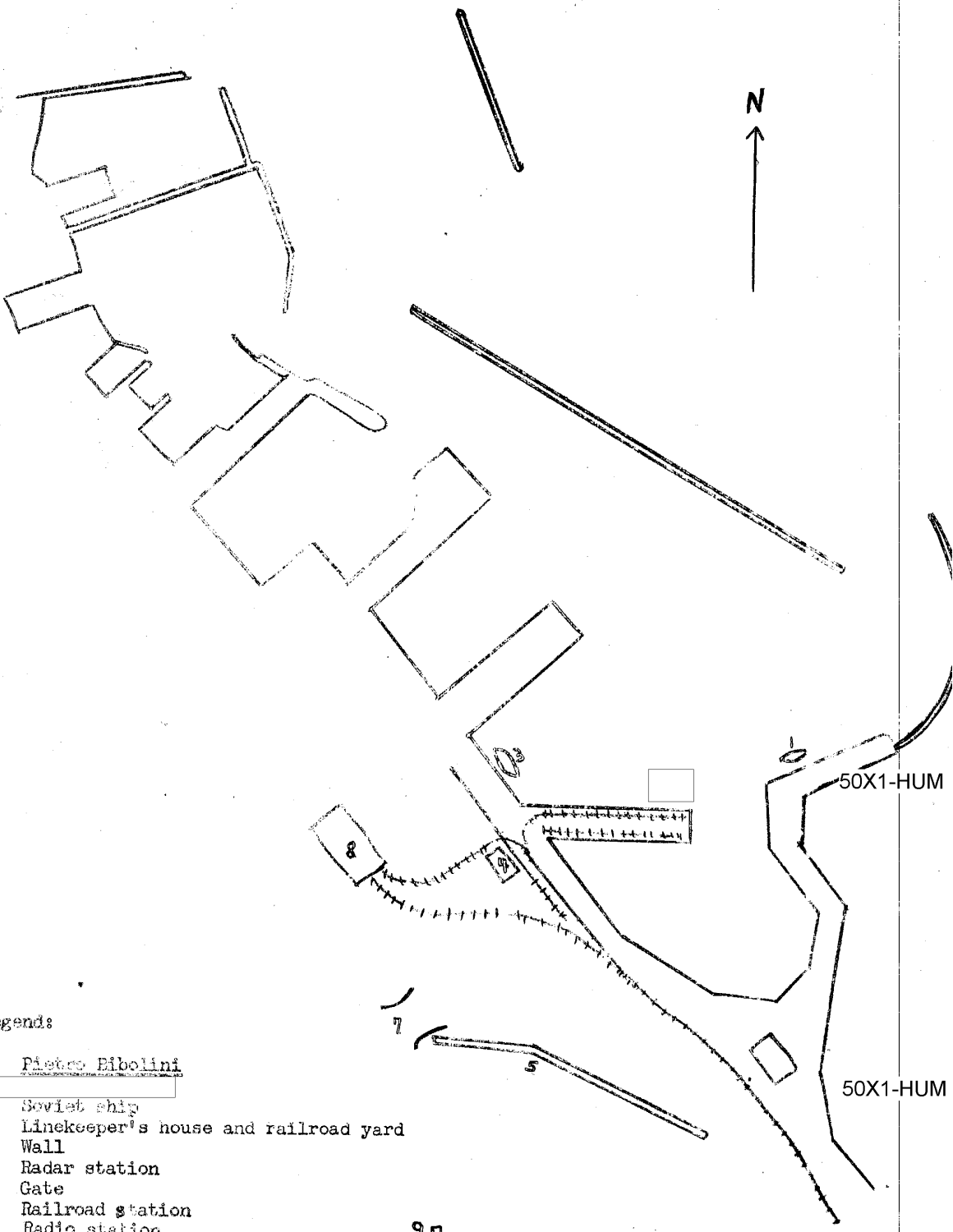
- 1. Port of Odessa
- 2. Port of Poti

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Attachment 1

Port of Odessa



Legend:

- 1. Pietro Eibolini
- 3. Soviet ship
- 4. Linekeeper's house and railroad yard
- 5. Wall
- 6. Radar station
- 7. Gate
- 8. Railroad station
- 9. Radio station
- 10. Athletic field

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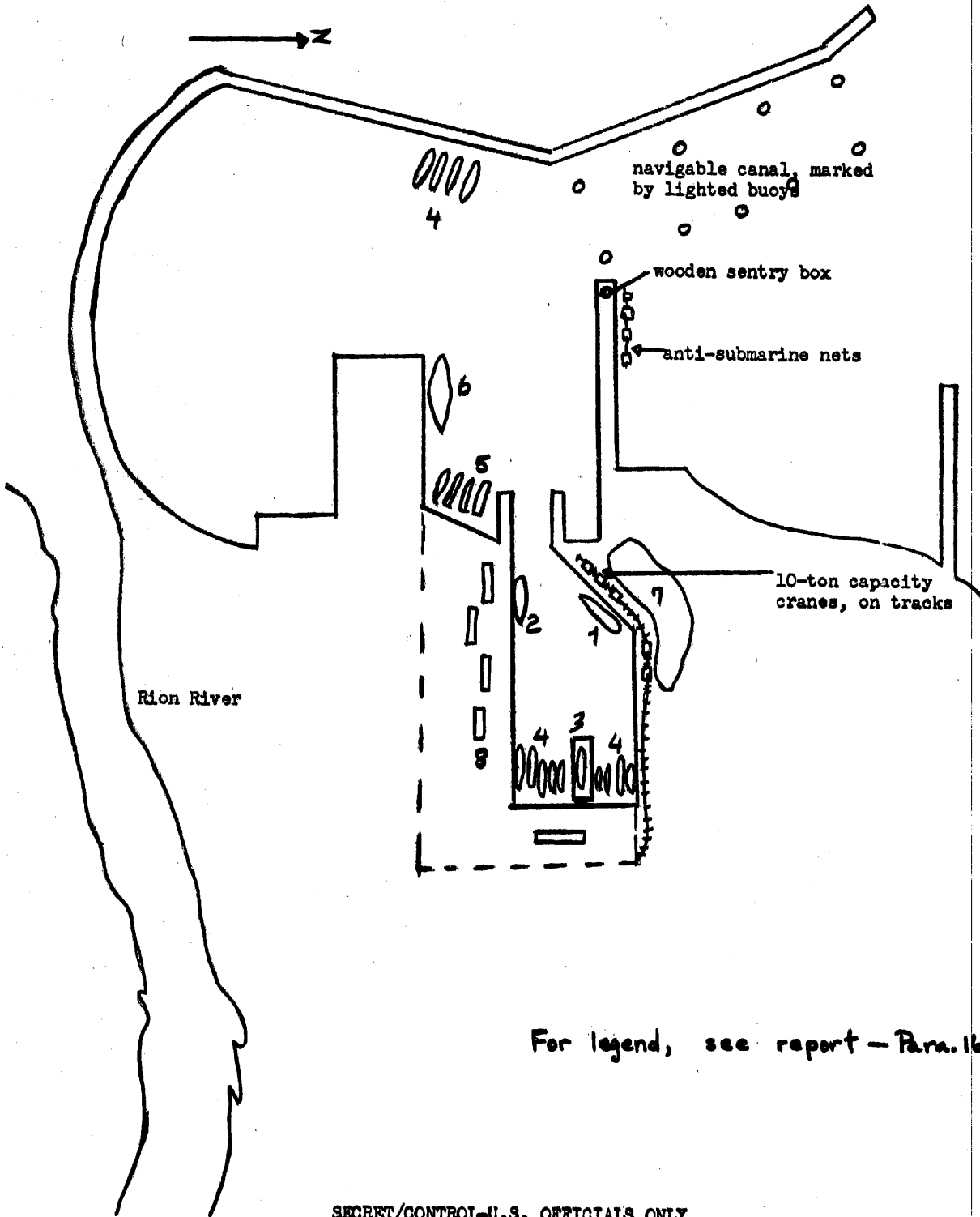
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Attachment 2

Port of Poti



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