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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Frontier Precautions

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THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION

1. Bulgarian frontier guard posts are now located two to three kilometers inside the boundary line. They are about five kilometers from each other. The Bulgarian word for them is Zastava. Some of the guards are in observation towers, others in secret observation posts. In frontier villages they are supported by Communist groups called Voyni Gruppi, made up of militant Communists or carefully selected agrarians, who have rallied to the support of the Communist regime. The latter are selected with especial care. Each village has at least a "platoon" belonging to one of these groups. The platoon has about thirty men.

2. Passage from one village to another requires a special document called "Otkirt List," issued by the militia. To pass from one district to another, this document has to be turned in to the district militia high command. People over fourteen years of age in frontier districts must either have a birth certificate or an identity card from the militia. These are called "Litchna Karta." There are three kinds, depending on whether the bearer lives close to the frontier or at a little distance. With a card stamped for zone one, one may travel in zones two and three (behind it), but not vice versa.

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