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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. // Dec 51

SUBJECT Altenhain Ammunition Dump

NO. OF PAGES 5

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 2
(LISTED BELOW) (A) & (B) 50X1

DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION
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1. The Altenhain Ammunition Dump was located about two kilometers north of the village of Altenhain. The depot covered a total area of about two to three kilometers in an east-west direction and 1½ to two kilometers in a north-south direction. The ground between the village and the ammunition dump was grass and lower than the wooded area to the north. [redacted] this area [redacted] would constitute a low-level flight obstruction. There were about three, brick-stucco, one story buildings at the southern edge of the area surrounded by a barbed wire fence. One of the buildings was used as a messhall for German employees. 50X1
2. [redacted] the 21st Tank Division, the 57th Guards Rifle Division and the 20th Rifle Division, all under the 8th Guards Rifle Army, were supplied by this installation. The dump received its supplies by rail directly from the Soviet Union; supplies were shipped out only by train. [redacted] there were trains from Naumburg, Weissenfels, Weimar, Jena and Gotha which arrived to load supplies. [redacted] about 500 railroad cars with surplus and defective arms and ammunition were 50X1

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ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REC	X	FB	X													

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received, and that the surplus material was sent to the Soviet Union. During that same month, all units of the 8th Guards Rifle Army were ordered to turn in all surplus arms and ammunition before moving to summer headquarters.

3. In addition to being an ammunition and weapons dump, this installation also had facilities for the inspection, overhaul and repair of armament. All types of weapons, including field artillery pieces and antiaircraft guns with their optical instruments were repaired here. Units of the 8th Guards Army were supplied spare parts for their weapons by the depot.
4. There was a nine months course for 8th Guards Army armament specialists at the installation. Subjects included field repair and maintenance of light weapons, artillery pieces and optical instruments. About three EM from each regiment took the course at the same time. Each year artillery officers from units of the 8th Guards Army also took a refresher course there which lasted about one week. 50X1
5. [redacted] the total number of military personnel at Altenhain to be between 720 and 900. [redacted] on the seating capacity of the messhall. In addition to the military personnel, there were about 150 German female employees who worked under the supervision of Soviet Army personnel, cleaning and preparing weapons for storage, loading and unloading weapons and ammunition. 50X1
6. The points listed hereunder refer to an overlay, Altenhain Ammunition Dump (Enclosure A)

Point #1 FOREST AREA.

#1A AMMUNITION DUMP.

#2 VILLAGE OF ALTENHAIN.

#3 DIRT ROAD. Leads from Altenhain to the ammunition dump area.

#4 SINGLE TRACK, STANDARD GAUGE RAILROAD.

#5 SINGLE TRACK, STANDARD GAUGE RAILROAD.

#6 VILLAGE OF BRANDIS (812000N - 123630E).

#7 RAILROAD. 50X1

#8 VILLAGE OF TREBSEN (511720N - 124520E).

7. The points listed hereunder refer to [redacted] the Altenhain Ammunition Dump (Enclosure B) 50X1

Point #1 BARBED WIRE FENCE. Surrounded the entire area of the ammunition dump. About two to three meters high. Lighted electrically at night. [redacted]

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- #1 and #1B WOODEN WATCH TOWERS. About 15 - 20 m high.
- #2 RAILROAD TRACK.
- #3 ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING. About 30 by 10 m, stuccoed light brown; gabled, tile roof. Weapons were checked, cleaned and prepared for storage here.
- #4 WORKSHOP. Brick building, two stories high; about 30 - 40 m long and 10 m wide; gabled roof, covered with weatherbeaten tiles. A brick smoke stack rose 15 - 20 m above the roof. Repair of weapons, including welding, and optical instruments was done here. The shop was known as the Armeiskii Remont.
- #5 REPAIR SHOP. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #3.
- #6 REPAIR SHOP. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #3. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] artillery shells were inspected here after they were unloaded from railroad cars. 50X1
- #7 ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING. About 30 m long and 10 - 12 m wide. Light brown stucco; gabled tile roof. Used as a warehouse for artillery pieces. All buildings along the railroad track had concrete platforms for loading and unloading railroad cars.
- #8 SINGLE STORY BRICK BUILDING. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #7. Used for storage of artillery pieces.
- #9 and #10 STORAGE BUILDINGS. Approximately the same shape, construction and dimensions as building, point #7. Rifles, submachine guns and machine guns were stored here. One of these buildings could house at least 4000 - 5000 pieces. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
- #11 through #17 BUILDINGS. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #7. 50X1
- #18, #19 and #20 BUILDINGS. Approximately the same shape, construction and dimensions as building, point #7. 50X1
In March 1951, land mines were stored here. However, [redacted] they were there temporarily pending movement to the underground storage places. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] the caliber of the mortar shells was 82 m/m, 100 or 120 m/m. [redacted] rocket shells (Katyusha type) were stored here. 50X1
- #21 and #22 BUILDINGS. Approximately the same shape, construction and dimensions as building, point #7. 50X1
- #23 BARRACKS AREA. [redacted] the grass area [redacted] about 500 - 600 meters by 400 meters. 50X1

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- #24 BARBED WIRE FENCE. About two meters high.
- #25 and #26 GATES. Only persons connected with the Weapons Section used the gate, point #25; only persons connected with the Ammunition Section used the gate, point #26.
- #27 ENTRANCE TO AREA.
- #28 ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING. Covered with light brown stucco; gabled tile roof. Used as an administration building. Section A housed the Army Store (voen-torg). About 30 meters long and eight meters wide. The Secret Section (secretnaia chast) was also located here.
- #29 ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING. About 40 by eight meters. Brown, with a gabled, tile roof. Used as storage for troop's provisions.
- #30 ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING. About 30 meters long and ten meters wide. Brown, with a gabled tile roof. The main section of the building was used as a mess-hall for both officers and enlisted men. Section A was used as moving picture theater.
- #31 BARRACKS. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #28.
- #32 BARRACKS. Approximately the same construction, shape as building, point #28. About 25 - 30 by five meters. Used for temporary duty enlisted personnel.
- #33 ONE STORY BUILDING. Constructed of wood. About 20 by 10 meters; painted green with a gabled type roof, covered with black tarpaper. Used as a barracks.
- #34 BARRACKS. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #33.
- #35, #36, #37 and #38 BARRACKS. Approximately the same construction, shape and dimensions as building, point #28. Used as quarters for temporary duty officers.
- #39 ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING. Constructed of brown brick, about 10 meters long and four meters wide, with a gabled tile roof. In the shape of the letter L. Used as a clothing warehouse.
- #40 ONE STORY RED BRICK BUILDING. About 20 by 10 meters with gabled, red tile roof. Used as officer quarters.
- #41 ONE STORY BUILDING. Constructed of gray stone. About 15 - 20 by 10 meters with a gabled tile roof. Fire Department was located here.

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#42 WATER BASIN. Constructed of concrete. About 10 by 10 meters.

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#43 through #84 UNDERGROUND STORAGE FOR AMMUNITION

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there were about 50 to 60 storage rooms built by the Germans during or before the last war. The bunkers were constructed of concrete, about 10 to 15 meters and four meters high. Each bunker had a single room without partitions. The thickness of the concrete roof was about 80 cm, and the thickness of the earth on top of the bunkers was about one to 1½ meters. The earth was covered with grass and trees. The interiors were completely dry. Each one had two green metal doors, facing south, about 1½ meters wide and 1.80 meters high. On each door there was a two digit number preceded by a letter, e.g., H20 (H Slavonic N.).

this numbering system was to facilitate the location of the various types of ammunition. Ammunition for tank gun shells was stored in Bunkers, Points #75, through #84. Ammunition for rifles and submachine guns (PPSH) was stored in bunkers, points #70 through #73.

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in one bunker there were at least 800 boxes, each containing 2500 rounds for PPSH type submachine guns.

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#55 DIRT ROADS. Covered with gravel and about three meters wide.

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Enclosures: (A) Overlay, Altenhain Ammunition Dump
(B) sketch of Altenhain Ammunition Dump

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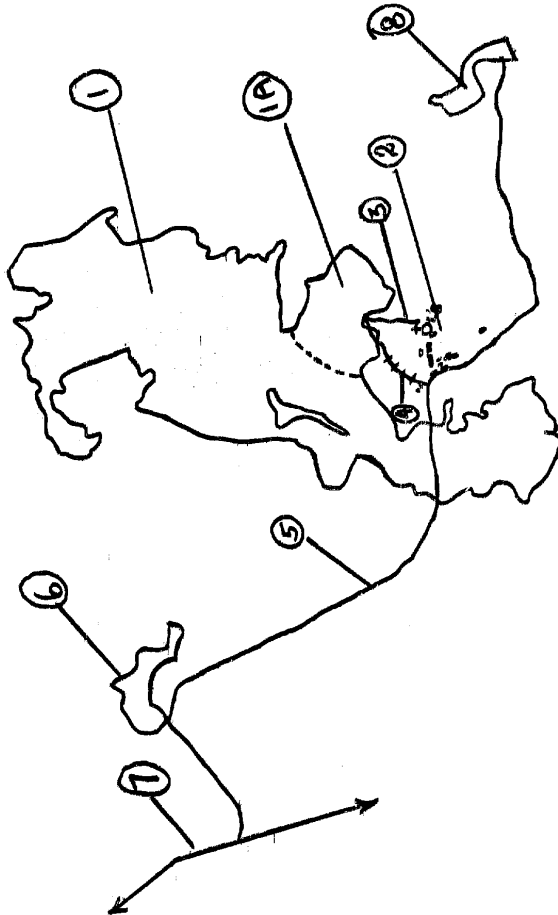
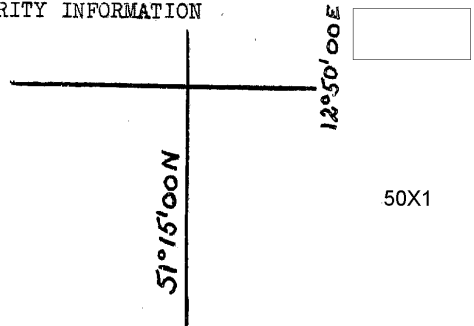
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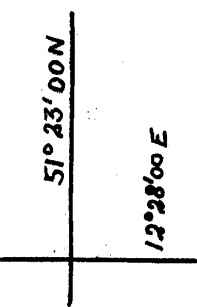
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ENCLOSURE (A)



"Altenhain Ammunition Dump (511730N - 124130E)
 Overlay of map sheet Q-7; Leipzig; Central Europe
 (1:100,000) AMS M-641 (G.S.G.S. No. 4416)



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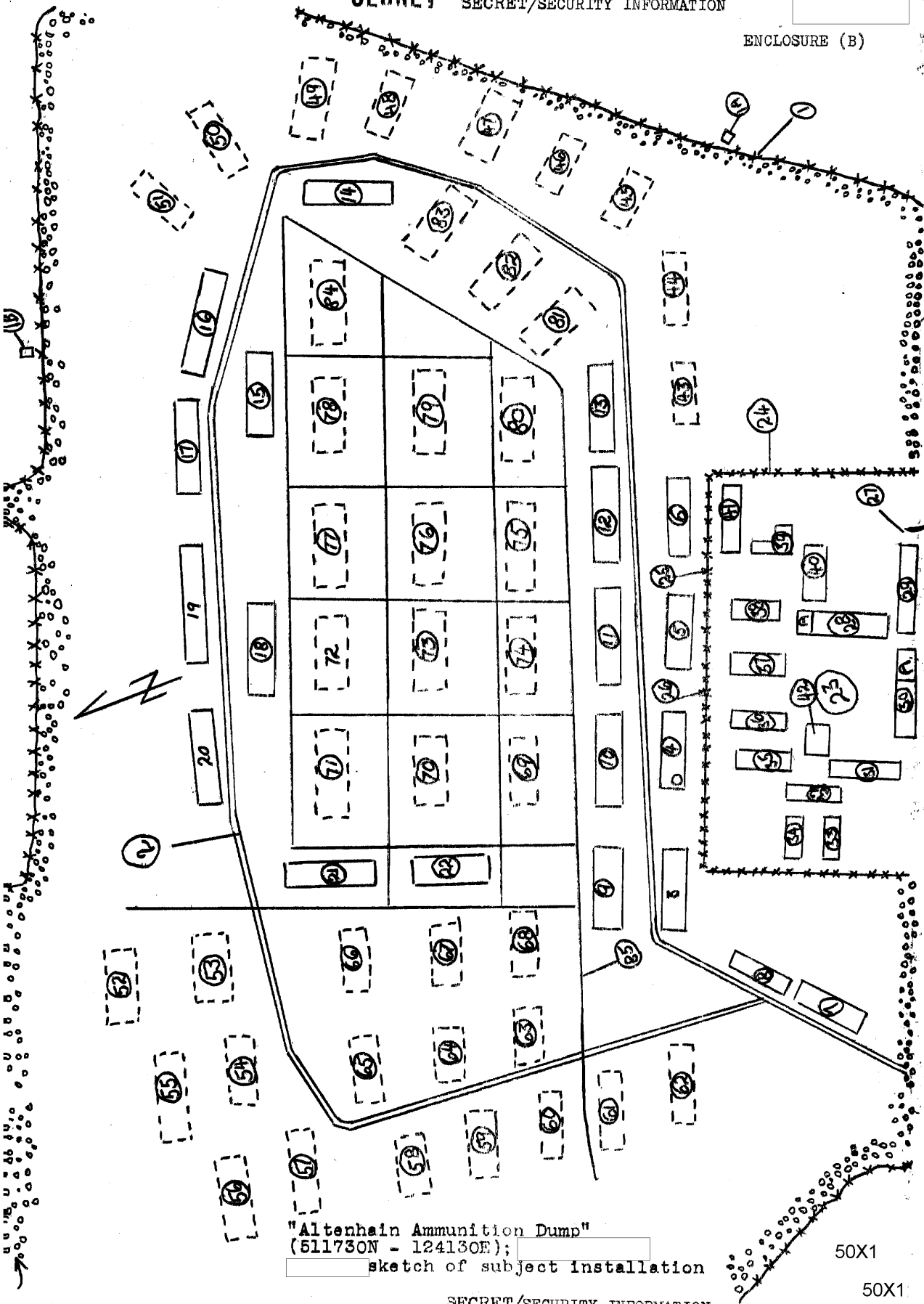
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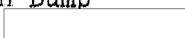

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ENCLOSURE (B)



"Altenhain Ammunition Dump"
 (511730N - 124130E); 
 sketch of subject installation

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