CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECRET

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25X1

1. MEZ (Moravske elektrotechnicke zavody — Moravian Electrotechnical Works) Zidenice, National Enterprise, located at 51/53 Filipinskeho ul., Brno-Zidenice, was an independent enterprise for the production of electrical equipment and was subordinate to the Main Administration of Electrical Engineering of the Ministry of Heavy Engineering. In addition to the main factory in Brno-Zidenice, MEZ Zidenice owned two small production halls, which were in Bucovice /4909N-1700E/ and Slavkov u Brna /4909N-1652E/. The main factory was built in 1924 and 1925 and until World War II was called Elektromotor Svet. One of the founders of this plant was Rudolf RICHTER, who is now in the U. S. or Canada. After 1945 the plant was nationalized and was enlarged by the inclusion of a former military depot in 1945 and of the former Smrcek Foundry in 1946 and 1947. Use of this installation as a foundry was discontinued in September 1952. Additions to the main factory were built in 1948-1949. [redacted] the factory space was fully utilized and no further enlargements were scheduled. 25X1

2. The plant produced electric motors, dynamos, fire sirens, oil pumps for cooling objects worked on tool machines, grinding machines, window ventilators, magnetic brakes for elevators, electric motors for spinning machinery, and magnetic railroad switches.

   a. Electric motors were produced for sea and river vessels. These motors, which accounted for 15% of the total production of the plant, were exported to the USSR through Metrans via Cerna pri Cope /4826N-2206E/. MEZ Zidenice also produced electric motors for sea and river vessels being built in Czechoslovakia for the USSR [redacted] 25X1

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b. Dynamos marked ZG 51 and ZG 52 were produced for motor vehicles. Production of these dynamos began in 1952, and it was planned to produce 9,000 dynamos of these types by the end of 1953. [redacted] 25X1

Some parts for these dynamos were produced by Pal-Magneton National Enterprise in Kromeriz /4918N-1724E/ and Veltechna National Enterprise in Kralupy nad Vltavou /5014N-1419E/. Final assembly of the dynamos and installation of them in motor vehicles was carried out by Auto-Praga National Enterprise, which was located in Prague XIV on Ceskobudejovicka ul. MEZ Zidenice also produced dynamos for military purposes. [redacted] 25X1

c. MEZ Zidenice was producing fire sirens at the rate of 4,000 per year. [redacted] MEZ Zidenice was to terminate its production of fire sirens by the end of 1953, turning this production over to another MEZ enterprise, [redacted] 25X1 25X1

d. Oil pumps for cooling objects worked on tool machines were produced in the production hall in Bucovice at the rate of 16,000 per year. The pumps were stamped according to their different specifications, CRN, CSA, CSP, CRA, or CJP. Most of them were sent to TOS (Tovarny obrabecich stroju) National Enterprise in Kurim /4918N-1632E/ for installation in tool machines. All these tool machines were exported [redacted] 25X1 25X1

e. Big grinding machines were produced at a rate of 150 per year and sent to Technomat National Enterprise in Prague for the Ministry of National Defense. [redacted] 25X1

f. Window ventilators marked VLX 504 and VLX 604 were produced and shipped to Technomat National Enterprise for further distribution. [redacted] 25X1

g. Magnetic brakes for elevators marked ELDRO were produced at the rate of 10,000 per year. Some of them were destined for the steel works in Kuncice /4948N-1818E/ and in Kladno and for the OKD (Ostravskokarvinske doly -- Ostrava Karvina Coal Mines). [redacted] 25X1

h. Electric motors for spinning machines were produced and attached to the spinning pots at MEZ Zidenice. [redacted] 25X1 25X1 The motors [redacted] and were delivered to Chemosvit Svit National Enterprise in Svit /4905N-2012E/ and to Czech Silk (Ceske hedvabi) National Enterprise in Lovosice /5031N-1404E/. A plastic insulation material called "Textgumoid" was used in these motors. "Textgumoid" was manufactured by Gumon National Enterprise in Bratislava (Kosicka ul. 26); its main components were paper, resin, and textile stuffs. [redacted] 25X1

i. A rather small number of magnetic railroad switches was produced. [redacted] 25X1

3. The approximate yearly production value of MEZ Zidenice was 500,000,000 Kcs. The accumulation (akumulace), the fixed sum of money to be paid to the national treasury each year by MEZ Zidenice as a national enterprise, was 45,000,000 Kcs. The quality of MEZ Zidenice products was considered excellent by the technical inspectors and by the customers. About 35% of the products were for

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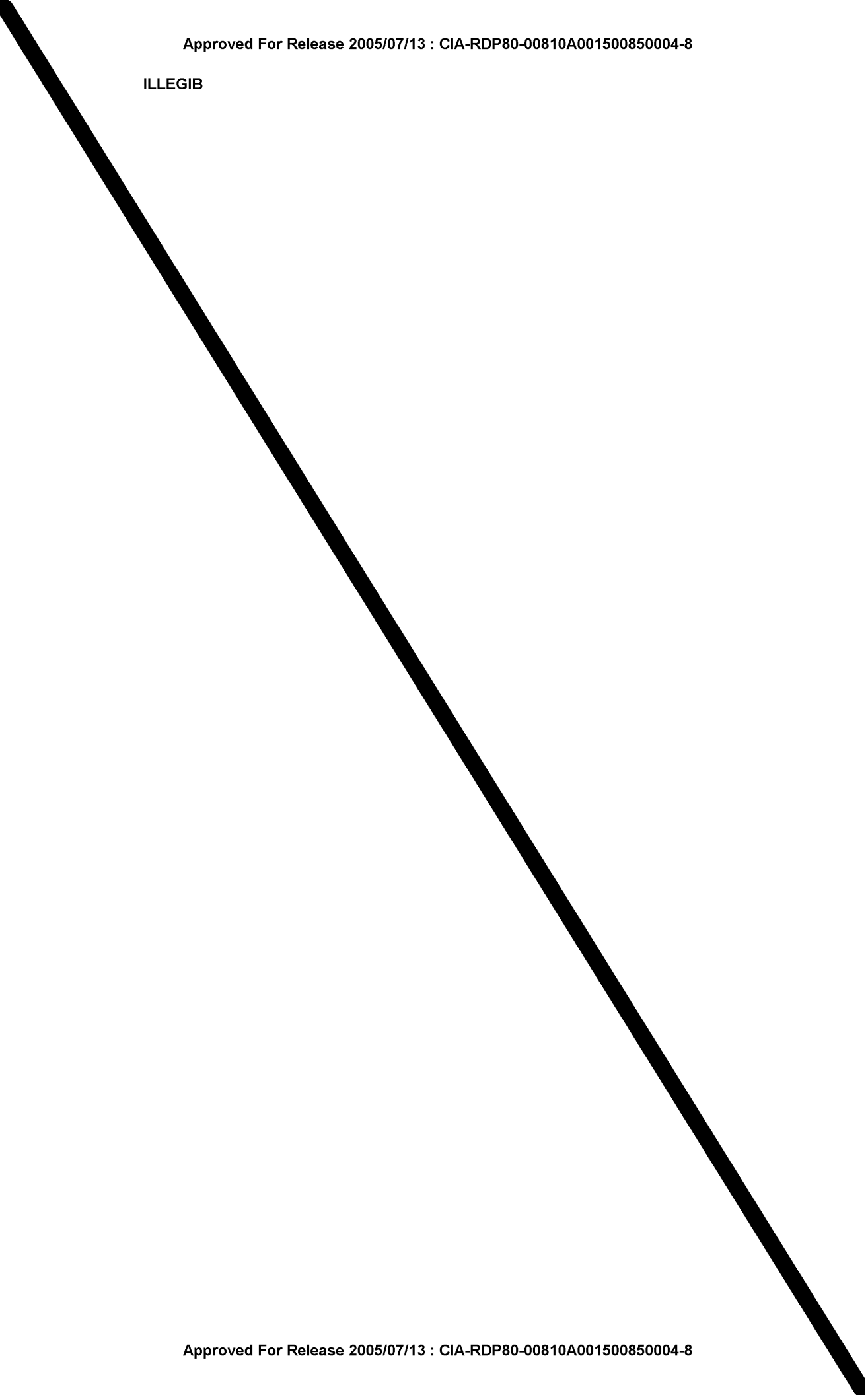

Bearings	ZPS Lisen, Lisen /4912N-1642E/, ZKL, Klasterec nad Ohri /5023N-1309E/, and ZKL, Dolny Mecholupy u Prahy
Paints and Lacquers	United Factories for Paints and Lacquers, Uherske Hradiste /4904N-1727E/, United Factories for Paints and Lacquers, Prague VIII, and a new factory in Komarov /4955N-1758E/ which started production in 1953
Rubber	Rubena, Nachod /5025N-1610E/; Gumokov, Hradec Kralove /5025N-1550E/; Optimit, Odry /4940N-1750E/; Matador, Bratislava (the only factory in Czechoslovakia where hard rubber was produced)
Wedge-shaped (Klinove) belts and packing rings "Guffero"	Svit, Gottwaldov
Measuring instruments	Precision Mechanics, Stara Tura /4847N-1742E/; Somet, Trnovany u Teplic /5038N-1350E/
Grinding materials	United Factories for Production of Carborundum, Nove Benatky nad Jizerou /5017N-1450E/

25X1 bearings, of which MEZ Zidenice bought about 100,000 yearly with a total value of about 10,000,000 Kcs.

7. The MEZ Zidenice plant had no spur track of its own. Although the Zidenice railroad freight station was only 500 m. from the plant, it was not used by the plant except for transportation of coal, which was transloaded at the Zidenice freight station to tractor-hauled wagons. All other materials for the plant were brought to the Brno railroad freight station and from there transported to the plant by trucks belonging to the CSAD (Ceskoslovenska automobilova doprava -- Czechoslovak Automobile Transportation). The MEZ Zidenice plant was supplied with electricity by the Brno Utility Plant (Brnenske rozvodne zavody), but MEZ Zidenice had a naphtha motor which produced sufficient electricity for the needs of the plant when the regular source of power failed. The plant made use of the city gas and water systems. Waste materials of the plant were collected by the Waste Collection (Sberne suroviny) National Enterprise.

8. MEZ Zidenice had no research institute of its own, but depended upon the research facilities of MEZ Vyvoj (Development) National 25X1 Enterprise, which was located in Brno-Husovice at Svitavska ul. 3. MEZ Vyvoj was the research institute for the major part of the MEZ plants.

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9. MEZ Zidenice, including the production halls at Slavkov u Brna and Bucovice, employed about 1,500 employees, of whom about 350 were office workers. About 65% of the employees were men and 35% women; the proportion of men to women was about the same in the work shops as in the offices. A few of the workers were highly skilled, and a few were completely untrained, but the majority had some training, sufficient so that they could do their jobs adequately. 25X1 25X1 of the total number of employees about 300 were 25X1 Communist Party members of these about 120 were convinced Communists.

10. Average gross salaries per month were as follows:

General manager	23,000 Kcs.
Chief engineer	16,000
Chief planning official	14,000
Chief of the administration and commercial dept.	12,000
Chief of production	10,000
Chief of the finance department	10,000
Chief of supplies	8,500
Supply planning officer	8,000
Supply distribution officer	7,000
Designers	5,500-6,000
Referents	5,000-5,500
Assistant designers (women)	3,500-3,000
Stenographers	2,400-3,000
Warehouse keepers	4,000-5,500
Technical inspectors	4,000
Skilled workers paid by the hour	c. 4,000
Skilled workers paid by the piece	c. 6,000
Semiskilled workers paid by the hour	c. 3,500
Semiskilled workers paid by the piece	c. 5,000
Unskilled laborers	3,000-3,500
Driver of automobiles	c. 6,000
Driver of trucks	c. 7,500
Driver of tractors	c. 8,000

11. The organization of management at the plant followed the pattern set by the government for all national enterprises in Czechoslovakia. Ing. Jaroslav DUCHAN was general manager; Ing. Antonin KLASKA was chief engineer; (fnu) KACHLIK was the chief of the administration and commercial department; Milos NAVRKAL was KACHLIK's deputy; Mojmir SUSTR was the chief of the office for setting wages and salaries (oddeleni mzdy a prace); Milos JANDEK was chief of the cadre department; Robert HERINEK was chairman of the plant Party unit; Jan BUSINA was chairman of the plant organization of the Revolutionary Trade Union (Revoluceni odborove hnuti -- ROH). [redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted]

12. The MEZ Zidenice plant had six regular guards who acted as gatekeepers and watchmen. Regular employees had passes which were good for the entire plant. Visitors had to bring a letter from their own offices requesting admission to the plant. This letter carried the heading "Permission for Entry" (Povoleni vstupu do podniku). A visitor would present this letter at the gate; the letter would then be approved in the general manager's office, stamped and signed, and the location within the factory (one or more department or the whole factory) to which the visitor had the right of entry would be noted on the letter. The plant had its own militia of about 60 members, of whom eight were women. The militia had military-type training one afternoon a week. Anti-aircraft defense began to be organized in the autumn of 1952. Some employees were assigned specific duties in case of alert; 30 gas masks were bought for training purposes; and black-out shades were bought for all the windows. As of March 1953, no anti-aircraft training had begun. Robert HERINEK, the chairman of the plant Party unit, was in charge of the anti-aircraft defense program.

13. There appeared to be no political terrorism within the plant, and the majority of the workers seemed to express their true opinions freely. There were a few rare cases of sabotage in the design and supply departments, but no measures were taken against the persons under suspicion. [redacted] the people responsible for investigating sabotage were careful not to be too severe for fear of being in turn severely treated for minor offenses of their own. General lack of interest in the work and carelessness were apparent throughout the plant.

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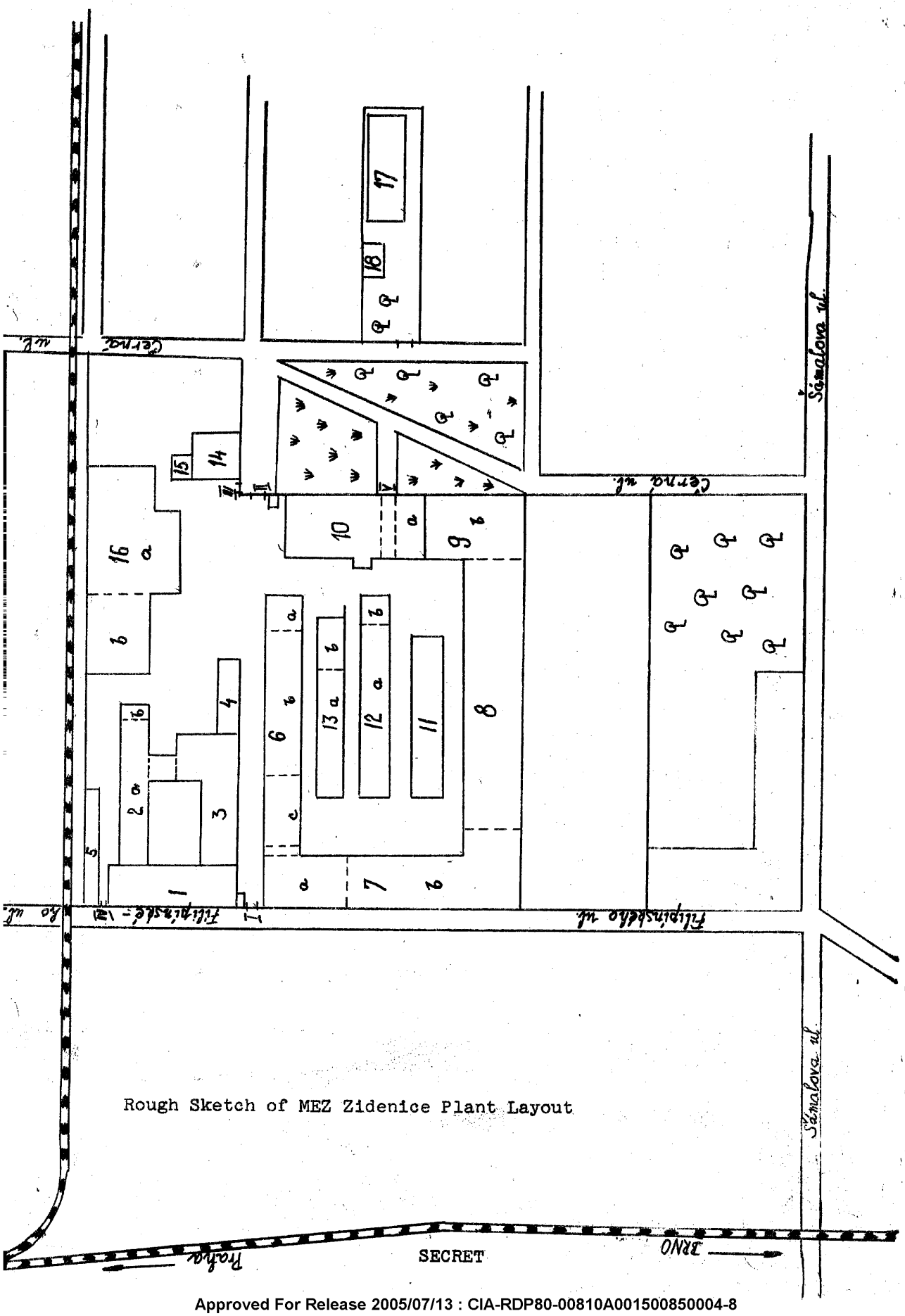
4. As at all the major plants in Czechoslovakia, there was an apprentice training program at MEZ Zidenice. This was called the Center of Working Youth (Stredisko pracujeciho dorostu -- SPD). There were about 80 male and 10 female apprentices who lived in quarters within the plant area and had their own mess. The living conditions in the quarters were very good, and the apprentices got four meals and a half liter of milk daily. A special training workshop for the apprentices was located at Grohova ul. 43 in Brno. They received theoretical and practical training for various kinds of work in the factory. In addition, they received political and gymnastic instruction. (Fnu) KALOUSEK was head of the SPD at MEZ Zidenice, and Adolf NAVRATIL, a zealous Communist Party member, was the political instructor.

5. In 1950-1951 MEZ Zidenice built a few apartment houses for its personnel in Brno-Tabor and rebuilt two old apartment houses on Francouzska ul. in Brno. The plant published a monthly magazine called "Elektromotor MEZ" which contained articles concerning various Party, personnel, and production affairs. Vlastimil VRANA, a Communist activist, was the editor.

Annex A. Rough Sketch of MEZ Zidenice Plant Layout



Rough Sketch of MEZ Zidenice Plant Layout

Legend:

Point	No. of Stories	Building Material	Use
1.	three	brick	administrative offices
2a.	two	brick	ground floor: tool machines second floor: assembly hall basement: storage of oil and combustibles
2b.	one	wood	naphtha motor for power production
3.	three	brick	ground floor: tool stockroom and grinding room second floor: ZG 50 dynamo winding shop third floor: stockroom for office supplies basement: paint and lacquer stocks
4.	one	wood	stocks of castings
5.	one	brick	garage
6a.	one	brick	shipping office
b.	one	brick	stocks of motors and semi-finished products
c.	one	brick	paint spraying room for finished products
7a.	two	brick	ground floor: storage room for products not yet sprayed second floor: lavatories and locker rooms
b.	one	brick	assembly hall
8.	one	brick	tool machine production hall
9a.	one	brick	sheet-metal cutting room
b.	one	brick	presses
10.	one	brick	purchase department and storage rooms
11.	one	brick	kitchen and mess
12a.	one	brick	tool room
b.	one	brick	forge
13a.	one	wood	machine maintenance shop
b.	one	wood	storage room for iron and sheet metal
14.	two	brick	ground floor: Hollerith cards second floor: dispensary
15.	one	wood	fire station with fire engine
16a.	two	brick	ground floor: shipping room for finished products second floor: drafting rooms
b.	two	brick	ground floor: laboratories second floor: drafting rooms
17.	two	brick	ground floor: carpentry shop second floor: school rooms for apprentices
18.	one	wood	lumber stores

I. Main gate with lodge, including one room for the plant guards and one room for the storage of weapons for the plant militia.

II. Rear gate with lodge.

III. Gate not in use.

IV. Gate not in use.

V. Gate for use only in case of fire.