

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Railroad Lines in Slovakia

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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The electrification of the railroad line between Zilina and L. Mikulas was under way as early as 1952. In April 1953, the overhead line of this railroad line section was completed.

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[REDACTED] The population believed that the entire railroad line from Zilina as far as the Soviet border was to be electrified. Electric locomotives were not yet seen operating on the line in April 1953.¹

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2. In 1951, work was started on the construction of a large freight station between Vrutyky and Sucany. In April 1953, 80 tracks and the installation of electric overhead lines. The freight station was about 4 km long. Six loading ramps were observed between the tracks.²

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3. [REDACTED] the railroad tunnel north of Kosice was widened for the construction of a second track. Construction was completed in late 1952.¹

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4. The Bohumin - Poprad railroad line is double-track. As early as 1949, work on the construction of a second track was started on the line section extending from Poprad to the east. Construction work met with difficulties between Margecany and Obysovc where the line runs through a very narrow valley. At several places space for the second track had to be created by blasting operations. A large railroad tunnel was under construction between Rolova Juta and Ruzin; this tunnel is to eliminate the narrowest section of the Hornad valley.³

1. [REDACTED] Comment. Information on the electrification and the double tracking of the Zilina - Cierna railroad line was previously published in Western and Eastern newspapers. The line involved is improved with a view to obtaining a more efficient rail connection to the USSR and the industry which is being built up in eastern Slovakia. According to Czechoslovakian press reports, the electrified Zilina - Vrutyky line section was opened on 29 August 1953.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. The information on the construction of a new freight station appears credible. The installation probably is a marshalling yard for the Vrutyky railroad junction. It is believed that the project is executed in connection with the improvement of the Zilina - Cierna railroad line.

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3. Comment. Information on the completed double tracking of the Bohumin-Poprad railroad line is received for the first time but appears credible. According to information available to this office, the double tracking of the Vruty - Lipt. 3v. Mikulas line section was under way.

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