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CLASSIFICATION G-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT [redacted] 25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 24 June 1955

SUBJECT Security Troop [redacted]

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) 25X1

DATE OF INFO. [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

[redacted] 25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted] 25X1

- 1. [redacted] in the building of the Praha Hotel (formerly Sudetendeutscher Hof) in Jachymov (N 51/K 60). [redacted] offices included the designation "Jerab" (crane). The expression "Standardu" (regiment) was also used. This headquarters was the supreme office for all security units which were committed in the uranium area. In the summer of 1953, this headquarters received a new banner from Prague. A major [redacted] was the commanding officer of the headquarters. NCOs who were assisted by women SNBs were in charge of numerous functions within the headquarters. Although this auxiliary personnel was frequently exchanged, the same officers were observed from early 1952 to October 1953. 25X1

- 2. In October 1953, a change in uniforms was under way. The members of the headquarters kept their khaki uniforms with a red service color added. Other SNBs received blue uniforms.

- 3. [redacted] in Jachymov apparently included departments approximately defined below: A department in charge of all convicted camps around Jachymov; a real estate department; a convicts' ration supply and post exchange supplies; a medical department; a code office in room 23 on the 2d floor of the billets; and an STB office. The number of personnel employed at the headquarters was estimated at 200 individuals. 25X1

- 4. A wing was attached to the east side of the large splendid five-story building of the Praha Hotel. A firm from Olomouc (P 50/N 85) installed in this annex an automatic telephone central with connections to all pits and their responsible security offices. The installation was completed in May 1953. Four individuals worked at the telephone central on shifts. Rooms 104 - 106 on the 5th floor of the new annex housed a transmitting station. Two rod antennas 8 to 10 meters high [redacted]

[redacted]

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and other meetings.

5. The members of the headquarters, who were equipped with submachine guns or pistols, held record practices at regular intervals. The commanding officer had an armored sedan which came from the motor pool of former President Gottwald. The number of vehicles available in Jachymov was sufficient to motorize the headquarters.
6. Prior to October 1953, an SNB unit of about 120 men who wore khaki uniforms and red service color was located in two former boarding houses on the west side of the Bratrstvi road and southwest of the former tobacco factory which was occupied by the mining main department. The unit was subordinate to the "Jerab" headquarters. The billets were called the "Dagmar Kasarna" (Dagmar Kaserne). The soldiers were equipped with Czech-made submachine guns and pistols.
7. The woman auxiliaries of the "Jerab" headquarters, who numbered about 40 uniformed individuals, were separately accommodated in a former apartment house southeast of the Jachymov railroad station.
8. Four more buildings west of the headquarters building and on the west side of the main street in Jachymov housed kitchens, mess halls and other installations of headquarters. One of these buildings, which was the former Slowan Hotel, was occupied by about 80 SNB soldiers whose billets included a kennel. Another building was used as a storehouse for billeting equipment, clothing, weapons and ammunition. Arriving or leaving SNB soldiers were equipped in this building. The same billeting area included a former workshop which was used as a garage for sedans, trucks, buses and jeeps. Another garage in the area of the station which was used for motor vehicles of the security service was located in an old movie theater. The last of the four buildings housed a dispensary with a dental center and billets for SNB officers and their dependents. The entire area of the above-mentioned four buildings was surrounded by barbed wire. A watchtower was located near the garage.
9. During training activities, the men of the SNB units stationed at Jachymov wore dark-green overalls with sewed-on pockets and no insignia of rank. The soldiers usually left their station on trucks for training outside the area of the town. The former airfield in Ostrov (Schlackenwerth, N 51/K 70) was allegedly used for [REDACTED] and record practices. Exercises which lasted [REDACTED] night were also held in the area of the Plesivec (Plesivice) [REDACTED] meters west of the Jachymov railroad station. The [REDACTED] talked about this Plesivec area. The number of SNB soldiers who were observed at training activities in Jachymov never exceeded 50 to 60 men.
10. New soldiers who came to Jachymov usually arrived in uniforms and received weapons and equipment at the station. They were allegedly dispatched by a kind of cadre unit. While older soldiers also served with the Jerab headquarters young men were observed in the billets of the units. Morale among the soldiers [REDACTED] was not bad.¹
11. Prior to October 1953, a border guard unit of about 60 men who wore green service color and doghead insignia was stationed at Jachymov. It was also located within the fenced-in SNB area. Missions assigned to the unit included the providing of patrols for the area around ~~the deviation of~~ Chomutov (N 51/F 02), about 5 kilometers south of Jachymov.²

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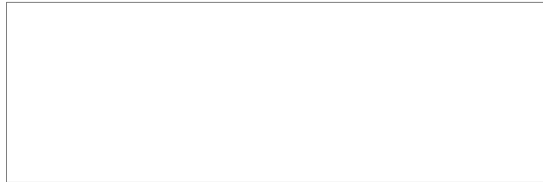
12. In 1950/1951, an ammunition depot, significance of which was presumably limited to the area around Jachymov, was constructed in the wooded hills 300 to 400 meters north of Vykmanov (Weidmesgruen, N 51/K 70). The pinpoint location of this installation was unknown.

1.  Comment. The 6th VS Brig is known in Jachymov. It is believed that in the fall of 1953, the Jerab SMS unit ~~was~~ integrated into the Interior Guards (VS). The change in uniforms also points to this date.

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2.  Comment. The unit which is mentioned in the present report is a company of the PS brigade in Karlovy Vary.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Prior to October 1954, the headquarters of the security troops for Jachymov and the security forces in the surrounding area was located in the building of the Praha Hotel (formerly Sudetendeutscher Hof) in Jachymov (N 51/K 60). [Redacted] offices included the designation "Jerab" (crane). The expression "Standardu" (regiment) was also used. This headquarters was the supreme office for all security units which were committed in the uranium area. In the summer of 1953, this headquarters received a new banner from Prague. A major [Redacted] was the commanding officer of the headquarters. NCOs who were assisted by women SNBs were in charge of numerous functions within the headquarters. Although this auxiliary personnel was frequently exchanged, the same officers were observed from early 1952 to October 1953. 25X1
2. In October 1953, a change in uniforms was under way. The members of the headquarters kept their khaki uniforms with a red service color added. Other SNBs received blue uniforms. 25X1
3. The headquarters in Jachymov apparently included departments approximately as specified below: A department in charge of all convict affairs in the camps around Jachymov; a real estate department; a department for convicts' ration supply and post exchange supplies; a medical department; a code office in room 23 on the 2d floor of the billets; and an STB office. The number of personnel employed at the headquarters was estimated at 200 individuals. 25X1
4. A wing was attached to the east side of the large splendid five-story building of the Praha Hotel. A firm from Olomouc (P 50/N 85) installed in this annex an automatic telephone central with connections to all pits and their responsible security offices. The installation was completed in May 1953. Four individuals worked at the telephone central on shifts. Rooms 104 - 106 on the 5th floor of the new annex housed a transmitting station. Two rod antennas 8 to 10 meters high were observed on the roof of the building. From calls heard it was concluded that the stations called were located in Prague and belonged to a police radio network. The former winter garden on the southeast side of the hotel was occasionally used for educational purposes

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and other meetings.

5. The members of the headquarters, who were equipped with submachine guns or pistols, held record practices at regular intervals. The commanding officer had an armored sedan which came from the motor pool of former President Gottwald. The number of vehicles available in Jachymov was sufficient to motorize the headquarters.
6. Prior to October 1953, an SNB unit of about 120 men who wore khaki uniforms and red service color was located in two former boarding houses on the west side of the Bratrstvi road and southwest of the former tobacco factory which was occupied by the mining main department. The unit was subordinate to the "Jerab" headquarters. The billets were called the "Dagmar Kasarna" (Dagmar Kaserne). The soldiers were equipped with Czech-made submachine guns and pistols.
7. The women auxiliaries of the "Jerab" headquarters, who numbered about 40 uniformed individuals, were separately accommodated in a former apartment house southeast of the Jachymov railroad station.
8. Four more buildings west of the headquarters building and on the west side of the main street in Jachymov housed kitchens, mess halls and other installations of headquarters. One of these buildings, which was the former Slowan Hotel, was occupied by about 60 SNB soldiers whose billets included a kennel. Another building was used as a storehouse for billeting equipment, clothing, weapons and ammunition. Arriving or leaving SNB soldiers were equipped in this building. The same billeting area included a former workshop which was used as a garage for sedans, trucks, buses and jeeps. Another garage in the area of the station which was used for motor vehicles of the security service was located in an old movie theater. The last of the four buildings housed a dispensary with a dental center and billets for SNB officers and their dependents. The entire area of the above-mentioned four buildings was surrounded by barbed wire. A watchtower was located near the garage.
9. During training activities, the men of the SNB units stationed at Jachymov wore dark-green overalls with sewed-on pockets and no insignia of rank. The soldiers usually left their station on trucks for training outside the area of the town. The former airfield in Ostrov (Schlackenwerth, N 51/K 70) was allegedly used for training purposes and record practices. Exercises which lasted from morning until night were also held in the area of the Plesivec (Plessberg) Hill, 7 kilometers west of the Jachymov railroad station. The soldiers frequently talked about this Plesivec area. The number of SNB soldiers who were observed at training activities in Jachymov never exceeded 50 to 60 men.
10. New soldiers who came to Jachymov usually arrived in uniforms and received weapons and equipment at the station. They were allegedly dispatched by a kind of cadre unit. While older soldiers also served with the Jerab headquarters young men were observed in the billets of the units. Morale among the soldiers [redacted] was not bad.¹
11. Prior to October 1953, a border guard unit of about 60 men who wore green service color and doghead insignia was stationed at Jachymov. It was also located within the fenced-in SNB area. Missions assigned to the unit included the providing of patrols for the area around Chomutov (N 51/F 02), about 5 kilometers south of Jachymov.⁴

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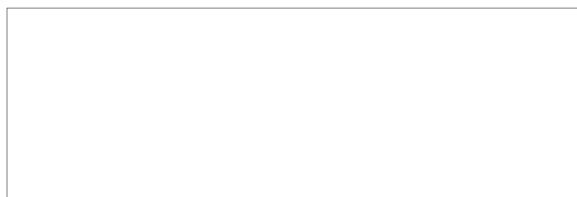
12. In 1950/1951, an ammunition depot, significance of which was presumably limited to the area around Jachymov, was constructed in the wooded hills 300 to 400 meters north of Vykmánov (Weidnesgruen, N 51/K 70). The pinpoint location of this installation was unknown.

1.  Comment. The 6th VS Brig is known in Jachymov. It is believed that in the fall of 1953 the Jarab SNB unit was integrated into the Interior Guards (VS). The change in uniforms also points to this date.

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2.  Comment. The unit which is mentioned in the present report is a company of the PS brigade in Karlovy Vary.

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