

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY	USSR (Belorussian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Construction of Railroad Lines near Baranovichi	DATE DISTR.	29 July 1955
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		REFERENCES	

This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. In 1950, a new double-track railroad line was constructed along the northern outskirts of Baranovichi (N 53-08, E 26-02). This new line ran from the Minsk-Baranovichi line at a point northeast of Baranovichi, bypassed Baranovichi to the north, and then ran along the Baranovichi-Vilnyus line (see sketch No. 1). Local rumors held that this line would continue all the way to Vilnyus. By the middle of 1950 this new line had been built and had been put into operation.

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there were two reasons for constructing this line. First, should the Minsk-Molodechno (N 54-19, E 26-53)-Vilnyus line be rendered inoperative in a future war, the new line would provide an alternate rail route from Minsk to Vilnyus and would also avoid the very vulnerable railroad junction of Baranovichi. Second, the new line would provide a second double-track railroad line, via Baranovichi, from Minsk to Vilnyus.

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2. In 1953, construction was started on two new railroad lines (not specified whether single- or double-track) in the vicinity of Baranovichi (see sketch No. 2). In the event of war, these two new lines would obviate the need of passing through the vulnerable railroad center of Baranovichi and would also insure an uninterrupted flow of rail traffic from Minsk and Lvov to Vilnyus, Brest, and Slonim, a town about 50 kilometers northwest of Baranovichi. The following are the two lines which were under construction:

- a. The first line branched off from the double-track Minsk-Baranovichi railroad line at a point approximately eight kilometers northeast of Baranovichi. It led almost parallel to the existing railroad line but ran just north of Baranovichi. West of Baranovichi this new line merged with the railroad line which led from Baranovichi to Slonim.
- b. The other new line started at the same point as the first and led southward until it merged with the Baranovichi-Lvov line at Rusiny.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

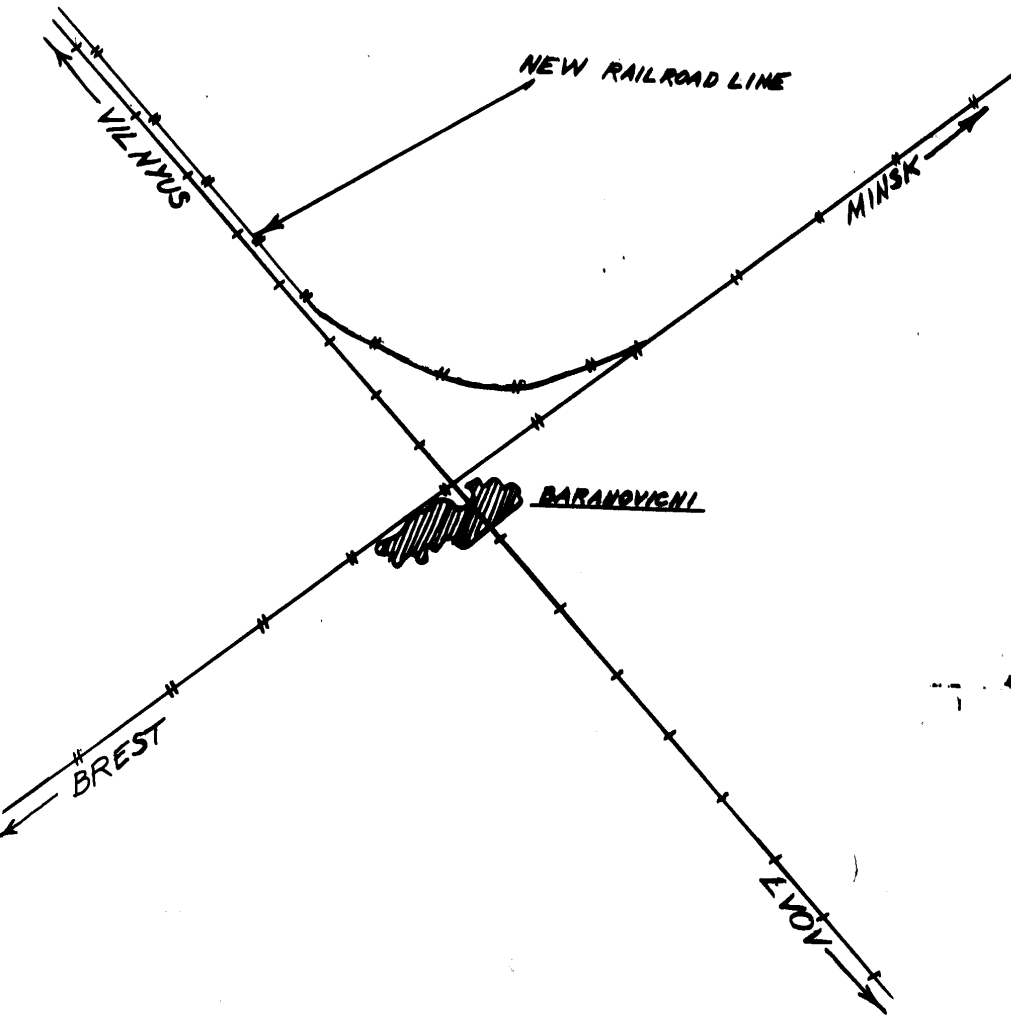
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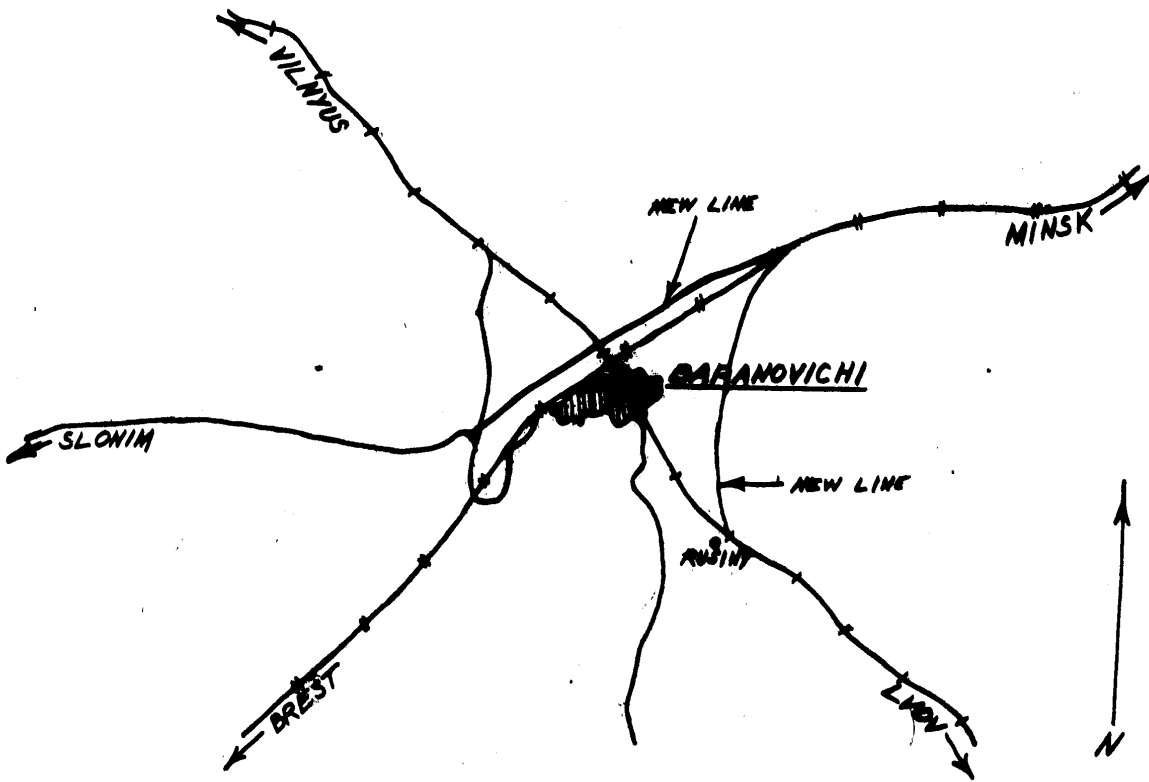
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SKETCH NO. 1
NEW RAILROAD LINE
AT BARANOVICHI
(NOT TO SCALE)
(1950)



S-E-C-R-E-T

SKETCH NO. 2
TWO NEW RAILROAD LINES
AT BARANOVICHI
(1953)



SCALE - 1:250,000

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