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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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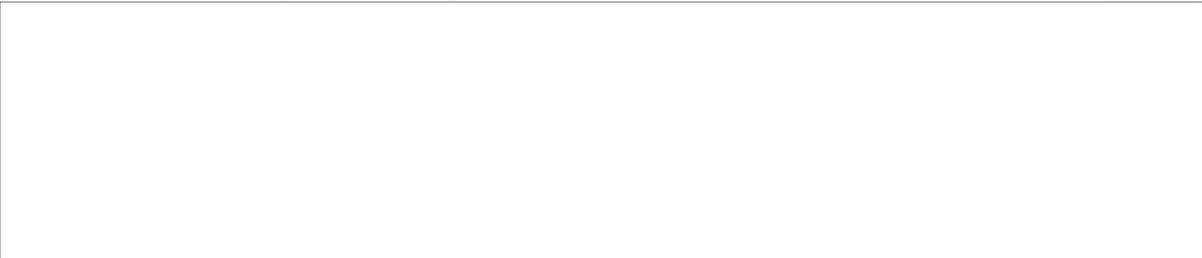
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SECURITY INFORMATION

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Plovdiv

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- Private firms from Western countries were represented at the 1952 Plovdiv Fair. Their displays were in a separate courtyard. However, since many goods were at extremely low prices and attracted many visitors to the fair, the State Security confiscated the goods and sealed up the courtyard on the grounds that the display was propaganda.



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Svishtov

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- there is a hydroelectric plant in Vardim village, Svishtov Okoliya, which is located on the Danube River 200 meters from the village near a hemp factory. The power station is connected with Rumania by means of high power lines through Ruse. This is a small station.
- A thermoelectric plant is located in Svishtov near the bars in the city center. It is in the vicinity of the Okoliya People's Council building and the Svishtov Academy. It is also a small power installation.

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4. In May 1950, a freighter was taking corn and rice from Bulgaria to Czechoslovakia, when the captain of the ship noticed that the grain had become spoiled (probably from the dampness). Believing that he would be held responsible for the cargo, he put his wife and child into a rowboat and set out for the Yugoslav shore. They were discovered and fired on from the ship. Border Guards on the Serbian shore then opened fire on the ship and the captain and his family managed to reach the shore safely. [redacted]

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5. In April 1951, the Bulgarian government received a first class passenger steamer from Austria, which was to be named the BLAGOEV and which would have been the best passenger steamer on the Danube. The ship made one trial run to Svishtov and later to Ruse. After only a month in Bulgarian waters, it was set on fire in Ruse harbor and all but the steel frame was destroyed. Mass arrests were made in connection with the incident. It was said that the fire was caused by sabotage, but the authorities were not able to prove this charge or to discover who was responsible. It was said that the damage to the State amounted to about 80,000,000 leva, including the Persian rugs and furniture with which the steamer was fitted.
6. The State rice factory in Svishtov is located about 50 meters southeast of the city. It was formerly known as the Olio Factory. It employs about 50 male workers in three shifts per day. In 1951, the factory produced approximately 16,000 tons of rice. The first and second quality rice was almost exclusively loaded into steamships and sent to the USSR; it is said that some was sent to Czechoslovakia, and that only part of the third quality rice remained for local consumption. The factory was built in 1948. Its machinery is of European manufacture. [redacted] the machines had been installed in another factory in the interior of the country, but that they had been dismantled and brought to Svishtov where they were remounted and assembled.

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Zlatograd

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7. [redacted] about 25 or 30 Militia men and about 10 Militia officers in Zlatograd. They were all armed with Soviet Shpagin automatic weapons.
8. An asbestos mine is located in the hills in the vicinity of the southern section of Divisilovo village near a stream. It is 500-600 meters south of the village and approximately 2.5 kilometers northeast of the thirteenth line of "Iyulyak" Zastava. Approximately 80 workers are employed in one shift per day. The mine has four compressors, only two (with 30 drills) of which are in use. The mine is very rich; however, there was a large landslide in September 1952 and about 50 decares of the richest shafts were buried and had not yet been open for re- 50X1-HUM exploitation as of November 1952. About four or five shafts were equipped with narrow-gauge tracks for bringing the ore out of the mine, but "several" of these were covered by the landslide. [redacted] the ore is transported from the mine by means of trucks, [redacted] The mine was opened in 1950 or 1951 when the compressors were installed. It is under the direct control of the Iyulyak Zastava, and has a Party organization. [redacted] the whole area contains rich asbestos deposits and that this mine will be especially well worked in the future. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
9. A unit of the Gorubso mines is located about 20 kilometers west of Zlatograd and is connected with the village by means of a special highway. The mine has one shaft which is located on top of a hill. The shaft has an elevator 250 meters deep with drifts each 50 meters for taking out the ore. The tunnels are all about 600 meters long. The five drifts are lined up under each other, and on the opposite end there is a shaft which opens into the fifth drift into which ore from the second, third,

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and fourth drifts is lowered; this shaft does not open to the surface. The exit of the fifth drift faces west. This drift has a narrow gauge rail line for carrying the ore to the outside. The other drifts have narrow gauge tracks for bringing the ore to the interior shaft where it is lowered into the fifth drift for transporting to the surface. The first drift has three branches leading to excavation points; one of these branches is connected with the interior shaft for lowering the ore. This drift has an exit of its own, and ore dug from the remaining two excavation points is carried out through this exit (which faces west) where it is poured out into a concrete chute holding about 20 cars of ore. The ore then goes into a stone crusher, under which the cars of the cable line pass. The workers at the concrete chute open the door of the crusher and load the cars, then lock the door of the crusher by means of a special lever. [redacted] the ore is carried to Kürdzhali on this cable line. The ore from the fifth drift is loaded into trucks and sent to Kürdzhali for cleaning, partial refining, and processing. The interior of the mine is lighted by electricity. About 500-600 Trudovaks and a smaller number of civilian workers are employed at the mine. The chief ore of the mine is iron, [redacted] the ore is not "especially rich." 50X1-HUM

The mine is serviced by trucks from the Gorubso enterprise in the eastern section of Zlatograd; about 60 trucks are used at the mines. [redacted] this mine was opened by the Germans. 50X1-HUM

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