

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

A fifteen-page report, including legends, sketches, and an organizational chart, on the Central Telegraph Office of the USSR

The following sketches are included in the report: one locating the office, one of antennae used, and one sketch of each floor of the building, from the basement through the fifth floor. Miscellaneous information on the office is briefly given and a paragraph is included on civil defense instruction there in 1952.

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CENTRAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE OF THE USSR AND CIVIL DEFENSE PROGRAM

1. The Central Telegraph Office of the USSR (Tsentralnyy Telegraf SSSR), subordinate to the Ministry of Communications of the USSR (Ministerstvo Svyazi SSSR), which was in the same building, was located on Gorkogo ulitsa, number 7 or 9, Sovetskiy rayon, Moscow. Ulitsa Ogareva and ulitsa Belinskogo ran on either side of the building, which was of reinforced concrete, had five stories and a basement, a slightly slanted zinc roof, measured about 30 meters high because each floor was of double height, and was about 20 years old. The building was about 50 meters square. Each wall had three double windows about eight meters high by seven meters wide. Three or four antennas of two different types were installed on the roof (see sketch on page 10); source thought they were for radio transmitting and receiving. Both types were about five meters high. The antenna with two columns supported a copper cable of unknown dimensions; the other kind of antenna was known as the "umbrella" type. The employees' entrance was guarded by signal troops; these guards were armed with revolvers, and gave persons entering the building a pass (propusk) which was left with the guards at the end of the day. These passes were numbered and bore a photograph. There were no outside guards.
2. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 11 , giving the general location and layout of the Central Telegraph Office:
 - (1) Public and employees' entrance to Central Telegraph Office.
 - (2) Building.
 - (3) (4) Stairway and elevator.
 - (5) Courtyard.
 - (6) (7) Stairway and elevator.
 - (8) Public and employees' entrance of the Ministry of Communications of the USSR and of the RSFSR, with a doorman.
 - (9) Stairway and elevator.
 - (10) Metal fence with a small gate, unguarded.
 - (11) Alley.
 - (12) Entrance for employees of the Central Telegraph Office and of the Ministry, guarded by two soldiers from the communications branch.
 - (13) Metal fence with a small gate, unguarded.
 - (14) Private residence.
 - (15) Entrances.
3. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 12 , showing the layout of the basement of the Central Telegraph Office:

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- (1) Substation (podstantsiya) containing (1) several generators that supplied electricity to the Central Telegraph Office when the normal electrical supply failed, and (2) devices to convert alternating current into direct current.

The entrance door was guarded by a soldier from signal troops who was armed with a revolver and checked the pass before allowing anyone to enter the room.

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[Redacted]

- (2) Unguarded, wooden entrance door to archives.
- (3) Unguarded entrance from the courtyard to the stairway that led to the basement and to the upper stories.
- (4) Stairway. All stairways had a well or shaft for an elevator.
- (5) Food products storehouse.
- (6) Archives in which copies of telegrams transmitted and received were kept for a three-month period, after which they were burned or sold to paper plants. On occasion, the telegrams were sent to other archives where they were kept for three years before being destroyed. [Redacted] 50X1-HUM

[Redacted]

- (7) Interior courtyard of the building.
- (8) Kitchen.
- (9) Dining room with 20 or 30 tables, each seating four persons; the dining room was for employees of the Central Telegraph Office, and served meals from 0900 hours to 1300 hours. Tables were served by uniformed waitresses. No pass was necessary to enter the dining room.
- (10) Door opening on to stairway from archives.
- (11) Stairway.
- (12) Garage housing about 30 cars and 20 trucks at the service of the Central Telegraph Office; the garage also did minor repairs. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

- (13) Cloakroom. 50X1-HUM

4. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 12 , of the layout of the first floor:

- (1) Public entrance for telephone and telegraph service.
- (2) Telephone booths for local calls.
- (3) Waiting room and telephone booths for inter-urban and international calls.
- (4) Stairway and elevator.
- (5) Telegraph office where the public was served.
- (6) Stairway and elevator.
- (7) Cashiers receiving payment for telephone calls.
- (8) Courtyard.
- (9) Cloakroom.
- (10) (11) (12) Stairway and elevator.
- (13) Personnel section employing about 15 persons. The section head was named Morgunova (fnu).

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[Redacted]

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(14) Dwellings for the chiefs of the Central Telegraph Office [redacted] 50X1-HUM

(15) Machine shop for the repair of equipment of the Central Telegraph Office. The shop contained about 15 lathes, three or four drill presses, electric and autogenous welding sets, a forge, etc., and did all kinds of repairs, however difficult. The shop employed about 50 workers, all of whom were specialists. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

(16) Pass bureau (byuro propuskov), the office in charge of issuing and renewing passes. It had two departments in which four or five persons and their chief worked.

(17) Pay window for employees of the Central Telegraph Office.

5. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 13, showing the layout of the second floor:

(1) Ministry of Communications of the USSR and Ministry of Communications of the RSFSR [redacted] The Minister of the latter ministry was Zurshchev (fnu). 50X1-HUM

(2) (3) (4) (5) Stairway and elevator.

(6) Training school to enable workers to advance in "category;" it contained two or three Soviet teletypes, ST-35 (Sovetskiy teletip); four American teletypes, two of which were of the type T-15 and two T-19 (source thought these four teletypes were a military type). Only employees of the Central Telegraph Office could study at this school, disassembling these teletypes to learn how they functioned. There were no other machines. Two-hour classes were given daily after work for a period of 15 days; graduates were qualified specialists. The director of the school was named Nesottsev (fnu), Russian, about 40 years old, communications engineer; he was chief of the automatic section No. 5, which was located on the fourth floor of the building. From 10 to 15 persons attended each course given.

(7) Stairway and elevator.

(8) Club of the Central Telegraph Office, with theater and movie; it was used for political and professional lectures, concerts, etc.

6. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 13, showing the layout of the third floor:

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(1) Teletype room of the urban telegraph system, containing more than 500 teletypes for receiving and sending telegrams to different points in Moscow. [redacted] following makes of teletypes: about 10 T-15 [redacted] teletypes that had been modified; about 10 T-19 [redacted] teletypes that had been modified; about 100 ST-35 Soviet teletypes [redacted] manufactured in Tula; about 400 AT-55 Soviet teletypes that had been manufactured in Sverdlovsk and Tbilisi; about 10 [redacted] teletypes [redacted] and two old [redacted] make teletypes [redacted]

All the teletypes were used in the reception and transmission of 50X1-HUM telegrams within the city of Moscow. There was no machinery of any other kind. There were three shifts of about 500 persons each plus a relief group of about 500 persons and a group of 100 persons who went to work in the morning to replace sick personnel, making a total of about 2,100 technicians and specialists. [redacted]

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[REDACTED]

the name of the chief of this section. Signal troops armed with revolvers guarded the entrances to this room.

- (2) Ministry of Communications of the RSFSR and the Ministry of Communications of the USSR. Employees of the Central Telegraph Office could enter without a pass. [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM
[REDACTED]
- (3) (4) Stairway and elevator.
- (5) Courtyard.
- (6) Dining room for workers at the Central Telegraph Office that served sandwiches and a first course to workers who brought food from home. They were served by uniformed waitresses and ate before the shift began. 50X1-HUM
- (7) (8) Stairway and elevator.
- (9) Repair shop for minor repairs, containing two Soviet lathes not further identified, a drill press, and work benches, and employing about 25 persons working one shift. [REDACTED] after working hours two workers were on duty for emergency repairs. 50X1-HUM
- (10) Telephoto room in which about 100 persons worked; the room was guarded, and a pass was required for entrance.
- (11) Stairway and elevator.
- (12) Management offices of the Central Telegraph Office of the USSR. The director was Guzovskiy (fnu), Russian, about 50 years old, married, communications engineer, residing in the same building in which the Central Telegraph Office was located. These offices had a reception room. The director was assisted by the chief engineer, named Grebenshchikov (fnu), Russian [REDACTED] a communications engineer [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM
[REDACTED] 50X1-HUM
- (13) Labor Unions Committee of the Central Telegraph Office; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The Committee consisted of a total of ten workers and technicians [REDACTED]
- (14) Telegraph subscribers; this transmission system established direct communication with the industry or ministry desired and was for use by only the ministries, large industries, plants, combines, and offices; it consisted of a dial telephone without a microphone. The dial had numbers from 0 to 9 and ten letters beginning with the letter A and following the Russian alphabet. Dialing put one into direct contact with the desired ministry or industry. [REDACTED] there were three eight-hour shifts plus a relief group employing a total of about 25 persons. [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM
- (15) Lending library of the Central Telegraph Office, employing two persons; the library contained technical, political, and literary works. 50X1-HUM
- (16) Auxiliary telegraph office transmitting telegraphs on frequencies of from 2,000 to 15,000 cycles per second. This section contained control panels but no machinery. Armed guards were posted at the door and no one could enter without a special pass.

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[REDACTED]

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

7. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 14 , showing the layout of the fourth floor:

(1) Machinery room, divided into five sections:

a. First section: in the first section were installed about 50 ST-35 Soviet teletypes; about 50 AT-55 Soviet teletypes; and about 60 or 70 "Bodo" Soviet teletypes made in Sverdlovsk, although the inventor was French. The Bodo teletypes were very large, measuring about five meters long by 1.5 meters high. This section had no other machines. All these teletypes were used in the reception and transmission of telegrams to those points of the USSR that were in the same direction as Saratov and Stalingrad.

[Redacted] This section employed about 200 persons on each of the three shifts and in the relief group. 50X1-HUM

b. Second section: this section contained the same machines as those in the first section. They were used in the reception and transmission of telegrams following the line Kiev, Kharkov, and all the cities lying in this direction.

[Redacted] This section employed from 200 to 250 workers on each of the three shifts and in the relief group. 50X1-HUM

c. Third section: this section contained the same machines as above, employing the same number of workers and technicians. This line received and transmitted telegrams from the cities that were in the direction of Tbilisi and Baku.

[Redacted] 50X1-HUM

d. Fourth section: it contained the same machines as above plus eight or ten T-19 American teletypes. It employed about 250 to 300 workers on each of the three shifts and in the relief group. It received and transmitted telegrams from cities in the direction of Siberia, cities such as Vladivostok and Novosibirsk.

[Redacted] 50X1-HUM

e. Fifth section: it contained about 100 AT-55 automatic teletypes and no teletypes of any other kind. It received and transmitted telegrams from all parts of the USSR. It was the most important section of the Central Telegraph Office. The chief of this section was named Nesottsev; the section employed a total of about 60 or 80 technicians and about 300 teletype operators on three shifts and the relief group. Each of these five sections had an engineer on each shift, who was the section chief. There were no deputy engineers.

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[REDACTED]

(2) (3) (4) Stairway and elevator.

(5) Courtyard.

(6) (7) Stairway and elevator.

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(8) Offices of sections 1,2,3,4,and 5, working on time and attendance, leaves, hiring, etc. [REDACTED]
These offices employed from ten to 15 persons.

(9) Repair shop for the machines in sections 1,2,3,4, and 5. The shop chief was named Petrov (fnu), about 35 or 40 years old, engineer, married, living in Moscow. The shop employed about 25 or 30 persons.

(10) International section, guarded by signal troops who were armed with revolvers; a special pass was necessary to enter this section, which employed about 50 persons on each of three shifts and in the special group. It received and transmitted telegrams from all parts of the world. [REDACTED]

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8. Following is the legend for the sketch on page 14, giving the layout of the fifth floor:

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(1) Section in which, after transmission, telegrams were classified by day and hour, packaged, and sent to the archives. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] This section worked four shifts: the day shift consisted of 70 persons, and the night shifts of 10 or 15 persons.

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(2) Roof and kitchen chimneys, number not given.

(3) Stairway and elevator.

(4) Courtyard.

9. Following is the legend for the organizational chart of the Central Telegraph Office of the USSR, on page 15.

(1) Ministry of Communications of the USSR.

(2) Personnel section.

(3) Management of the Telegraph Office.

(4) Shift chief.

(5) Deputy shift chief for technical affairs.

(6) Fourth floor deputy shift chief for operations.

(7) Third floor deputy shift chief for operations.

(8) Fourth floor deputy shift chief for technical affairs.

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- (9) Third floor deputy shift chief for technical affairs.
- (10) Principal accountant.
- (11) Deputy director for consumption of materials, housing, transport, etc.
- (12) Chief engineer, deputy director for technical affairs.
- (13) Deputy director for operations.
- (14) Chief of operations for section one, fourth floor.
- (15) Payroll section.
- (16) Finance section.
- (17) Housing section.
- (18) Transport section.
- (19) Assistant to the chief engineer for technical matters in section one, fourth floor.
- (20) Assistant to the chief engineer for technical matters in section two, fourth floor.
- (21) Assistant to the chief engineer for technical matters in section three, fourth floor.
- (22) Assistant to the chief engineer for technical matters in section four, fourth floor.
- (23) Assistant to the chief engineer for technical matters in section five, fourth floor.
- (24) Technical chief of the urban section, on the third floor.
- (25) Technical chief of telegraphic frequencies.
- (26) Technical chief of telegraph subscribers (abonentskiy telegraf).
- (27) Chief of operations of section two, fourth floor.
- (28) Chief of operations of section three, fourth floor.
- (29) Chief of operations of section four, fourth floor.
- (30) Chief of operations of section five, fourth floor.
- (31) Chief of operations of the urban section, third floor.
- (32) Chief of operations for telegraph subscribers.
- (33) Chief of the telephoto section.
- (34) Shift chief for technical affairs, of one section. There were four shifts.
- (35) Shift chief for operations, of one section. There were four shifts.

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

10. A pneumatic tube system was used to send telegrams from one section to another and from one floor to another.

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[Redacted]

[Redacted] there was a secret section in the Central Telegraph Office [Redacted]

[Redacted] No new equipment was installed in the Central Telegraph Office [Redacted] There was no shortage of electronic parts. [Redacted]

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11. [Redacted] the telegraph office [Redacted] in the city of Pyatigorsk, RSFSR [Redacted]

[Redacted] was subordinate to the Ministry of Communications of the RSFSR. All telegraph offices in the USSR bore the name of the city in which they were located; none were numbered. The Ministry of Railroads had its own transmission system; all other ministries, excepting the military ministries [Redacted] used the Central Tele-

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graph Office of the USSR. [Redacted]

12. About winter 1952, the Secretary of the Komsomol of the Central Telegraph Office began distributing a medium-size, dark green six- or eight-page booklet with a few pictures, titled Atomic Defense. These manuals could not be taken home. The text was explained to all employees of the Central Telegraph Office in two 40-minute lectures. No other lectures of this type were given. Afterwards, lectures were given twice monthly on the most varied subjects, including atomic defense; these lectures lasted from 60 to 90 minutes and began at about 1430 hours for source's shift. A lecture on atomic defense was given by a professional lecturer nearly every month; it was not always the same lecturer. Lectures were given in the Central Telegraph Office club, located in the building; attendance was voluntary, and the lectures were given between shifts.

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[Redacted] About 70 to 80 percent of the employees of the Central Telegraph Office attended the lectures in groups of 150 to 200. [Redacted]

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[Redacted] These awards were given to the Komsomoltsy taking active part in the DOSAAF program [Redacted]

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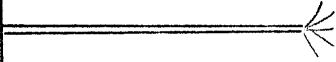
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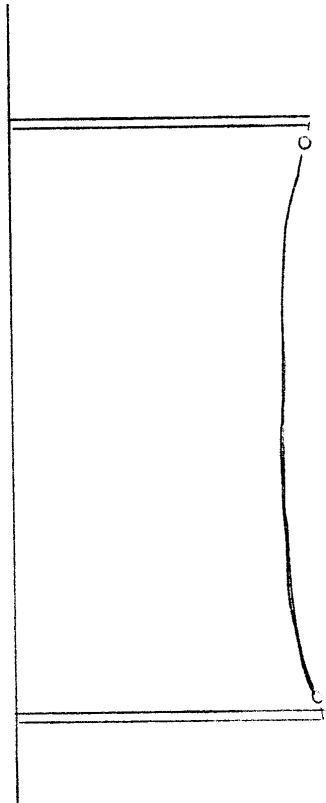
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Sketches of Types of Antennae Used at Central Telegraph Office of USSR



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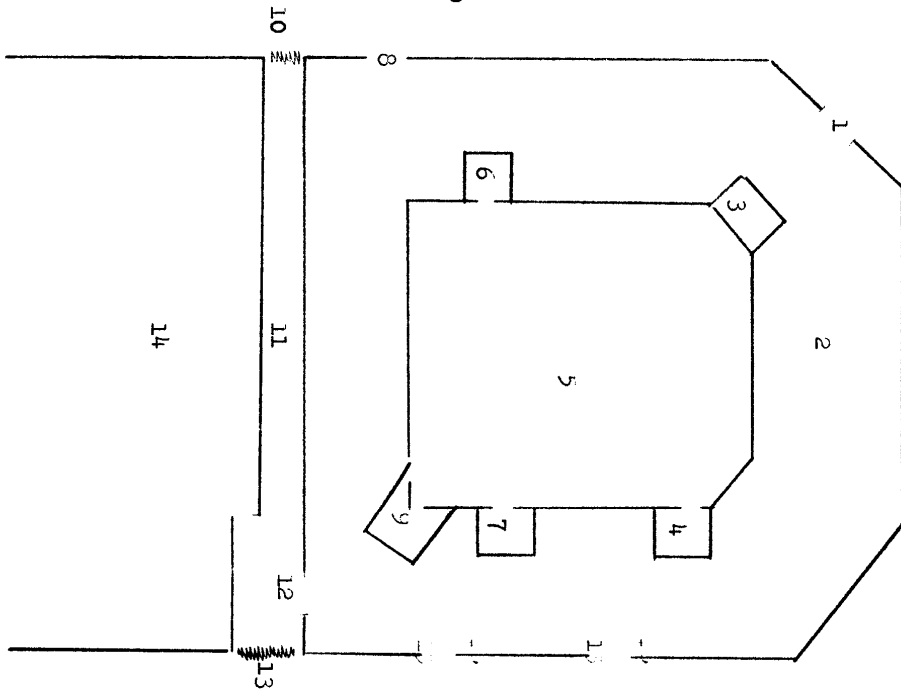
[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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ulitsa Ogareva



Sketch of Location of
 Central Telegram Office
 Of USSR in Moscow
 Approx. scale: 1/500

Gorkogo ulitsa

ulitsa Belinskogo

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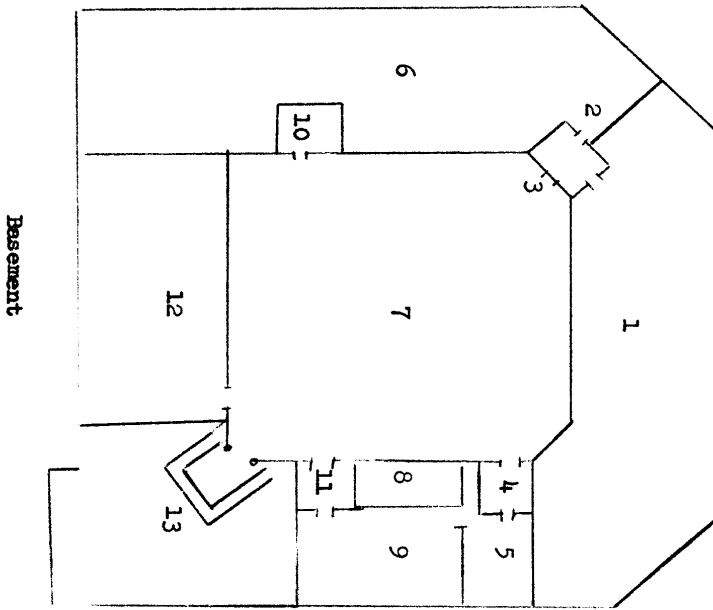
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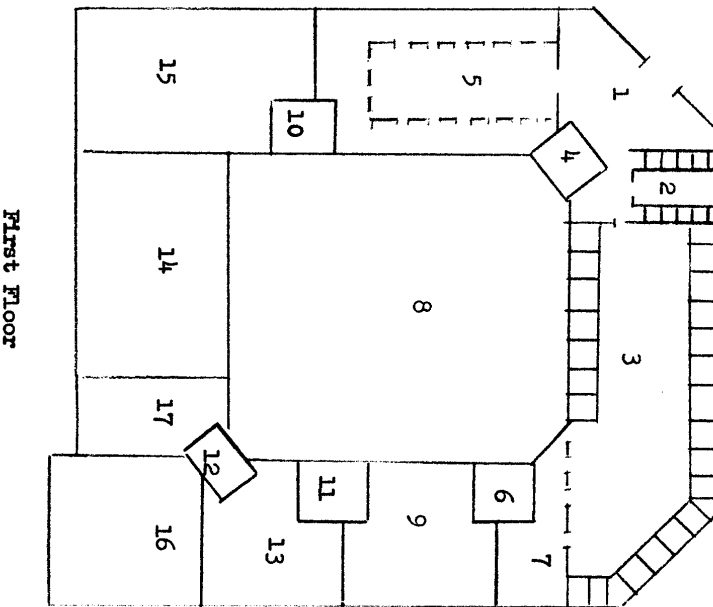
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Sketches of Layout of Central Telegraph Office of USSR



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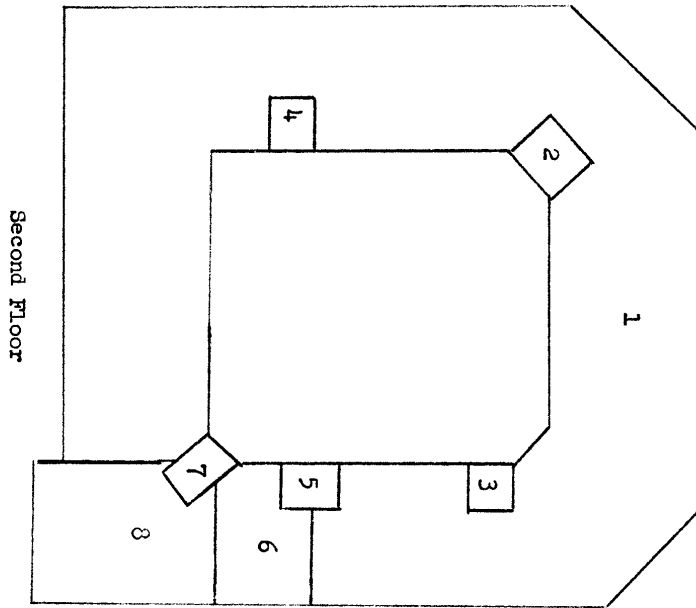
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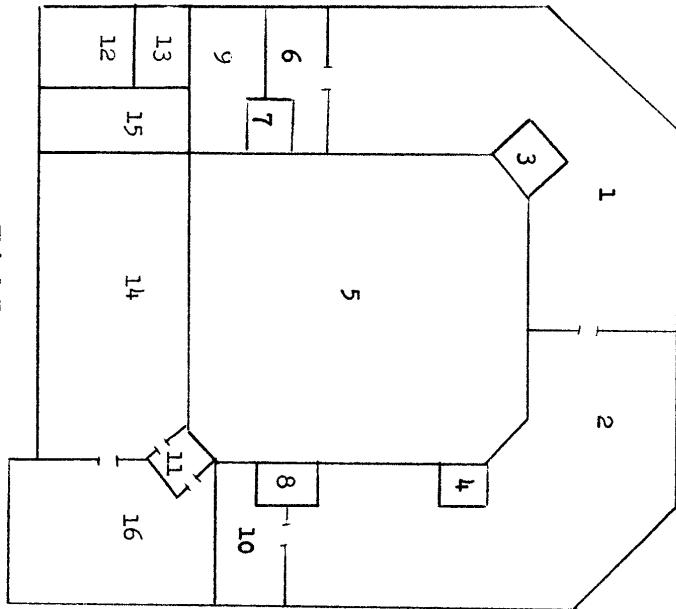
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Second Floor

Sketches of Layout of Central Telegraph Office of USSR



Third Floor

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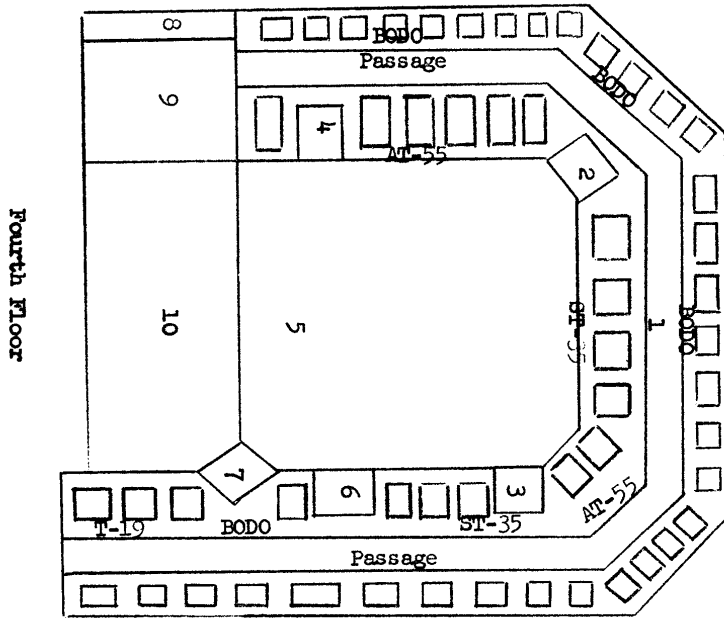
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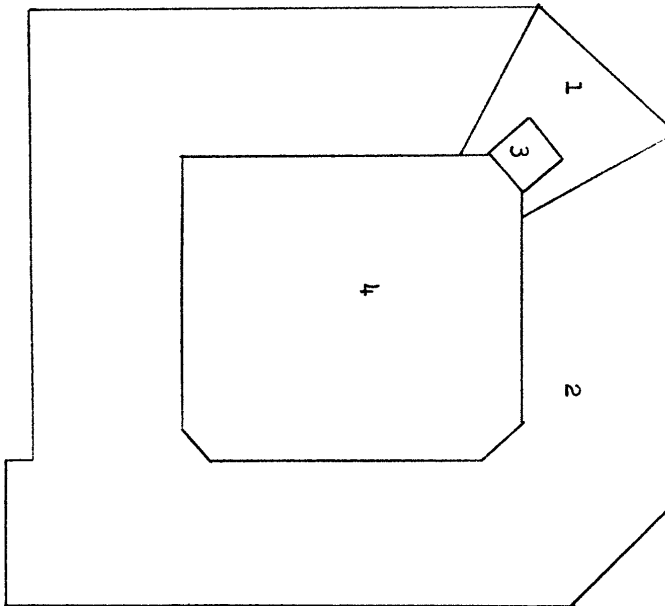
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Sketches of Layout of Central Telegraph Office of USSR

Fifth Floor



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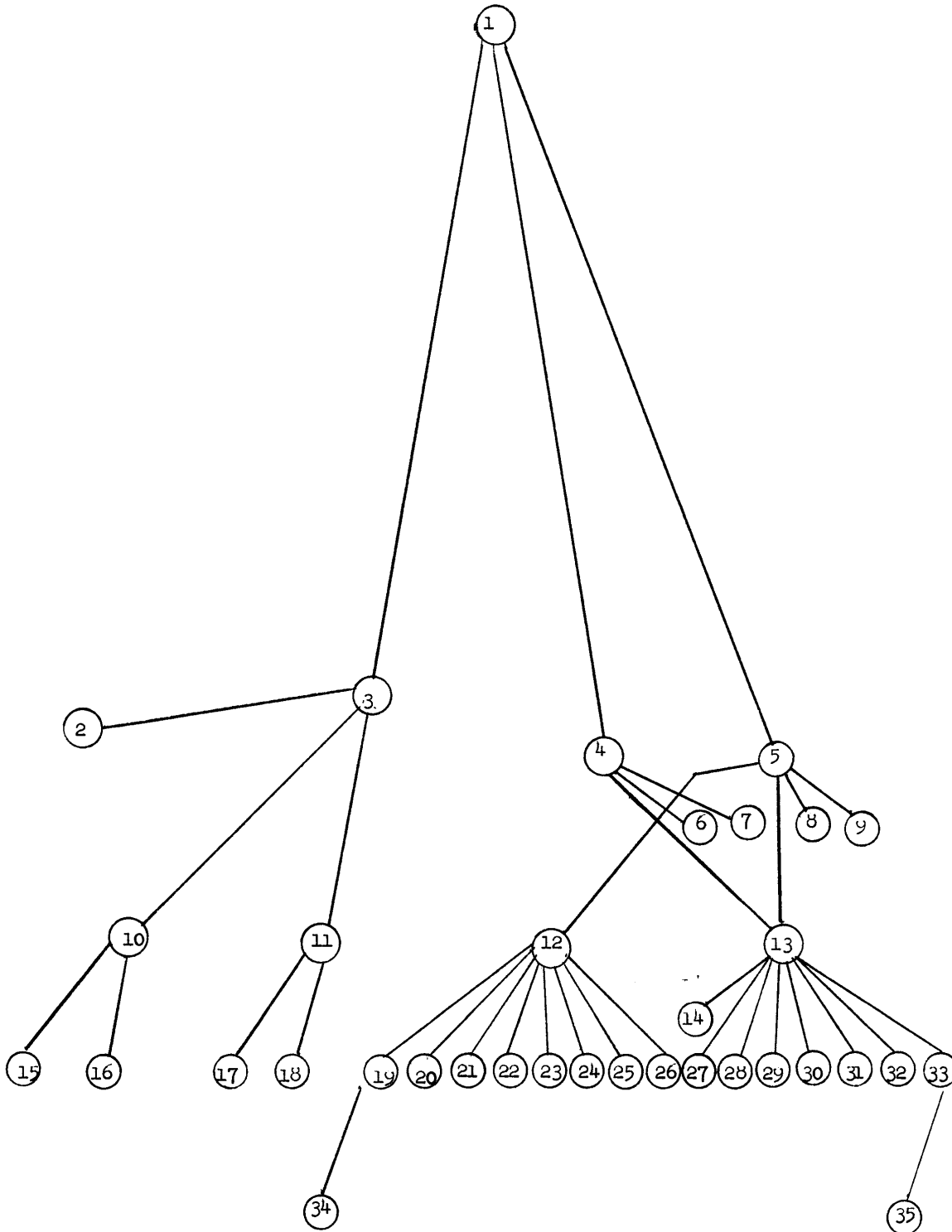
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Organizational Chart of the
Central Telegraph Office

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