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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Ukrainian SSR)	REPORT	[REDACTED]	50X1
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 2. Rubezhnoye is located at N 49-01, E 38-23.  
Page 2, point 5, Kremmenaya should probably read Kremennaya.  
On page 4, point 12, read Sberegatel'naya Kassa for Zberegatel'naya Kassa.  
Baranik, page 4, point 11, has also been reported as Barannik.

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**C O N F I D E N T I A L**

REPORT [ ] 50X1  
[ ] 50X1-HUM

**COUNTRY :** USSR (Ukrainian SSR)  
**SUBJECT :** Area Description of Rubeshnoye

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**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

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**AREA DESCRIPTION**

1. On an overlay of USAF TCM-25-0234-9969-1-25M, Lisichansk, Scale 1:25,000 [see page 14 ], [ ] located the following points in the Rubeshnoye area:

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**Point 1**

**Stadium**

An oval-shaped athletic field, about 180 m. x 50 m., surrounded by a white brick wall, 3 m. high. There was one large double iron gate located at the southeast corner of the field. The stadium was laid out north-south and was located about 20 m. north of the railroad line (Point 4). The road (Point 2) led directly to this stadium from the southeast. This was the only athletic field in the area of Rubeshnoye, and was consequently in heavy use by young people, including the various amateur soccer and field teams. On Sundays, this field was the most popular area of Rubeshnoye.

**Point 2**

**Road**

An unpaved, dirt road about 30 m. wide which led from the town of Rubeshnoye in the southeast to the stadium (Point 1) where it terminated. From the city of Rubeshnoye to a point about 300 m. southeast of the settlement (Point 3), this road was cobblestone paved. During the autumn and

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and early spring months, this road was a sea of mud.

Point 3

Settlement

A small residential settlement consisting of one-story frame and plaster houses which were occupied by the higher paid employees of the Khimkombinat. The road (Point 2) extended through the center of this settlement.

Point 4

Railroad Line

A single track, SRG line, which led from the Donets Basin in the south to the city of Moscow in the northwest, a distance of about 700 kms. The line was not electrified and heavily used by freight and passenger trains. The freight traffic did not conform to a regular schedule, [redacted] but there was quite a bit of it.

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There were about six passenger trains passing through this area daily and one express train which passed through, from Rubeshnoye at about 1100 hours daily.

Point 3

Point 5

Road

An unpaved dirt road, 30 m. wide, which ran west of and parallel to the railroad line (Point 4) and which extended from the town of Rubeshnoye, northwest to the small village of Kremennaya located about 12 kms. northwest. The section of the road which ran through the town of Rubeshnoye was partly concrete and partly cobblestone paved. The road extended further southeast, past the railroad station (Point 22) and then turned into another road (Point 24).

Point 4

Point 6

Factory Area

An area about 200 m. x 200 m., surrounded by a white brick wall 3 m. high. [redacted] what the area contained, but it looked like some sort of factory or possibly a saw mill. There was an entrance to this area at its eastern end, guarded always by two civilian guards armed with carbines.

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Point 5

Point 7

Institute

A T-shaped, three-story, white brick building, the south-west wing of which was about 100 m. long and the northeast wing, about 80 m. long. The gable roof was covered with sheet metal which was painted with a tar paint. The building housed an institute for the training of technicians for the chemical and engineering field.

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Point 6

[redacted] the institute [redacted] was commonly referred to as the "tekhnikum" by the population. The faculty strength and student body is unknown [redacted] but the average age of the students was about 20 years. The building also served as a dormitory for the students who were undergoing training which lasted about three years. There were no security precautions in or around this building at any time. There were three entrances to this building all located in the southwest wing.

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Point 7

Point 8

Trade School

A T-shaped, two-story, white brick building, with a gable roof painted with tar paint. The north wing of the building was about 50 m. x 16 m., and the south wing was about the same size. The building housed a co-educational trade

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school with a student body of about 100 persons. All students were a navy blue army type uniform. In addition to various types of woodwork taught here, wood wind instruments were also produced. The building was bordered on the north by a street (Point 13), onto which the main entrance of the building opened. Adjoining the building on the northwest was an exercising ground surrounded by a three-meter high wire fence, and on the southeast side of the building was a small garden also surrounded by a fence of the same height.

Point 9

Building

A large, quadrangle-shaped building, constructed of white brick, three stories high, covered with a gable roof which was covered with sheet metal painted with tar paint. The building's wings were about 60 m. x 10 m. On the first floor of the west wing were two stores; one, a grocery, and the other sold household articles. The building housed the better-paid Soviet personnel who were employed in the NIOPK laboratory and the Khimkombinat. It was bordered on the east by the street "Prospekt Kirova," an unpaved road, 60 to 70 m. wide, extending in a north-northeasterly direction from the street (Point 13), for a distance of about 650 m. The building stood directly south of the building shown as Point 10.

Point 10

Building

An inverted L-shaped three-story, white brick building, with a gable roof covered over with sheet metal painted with tar paint. The eastern wing was about 90 m. x 12 m.; and the south wing, about 70 m. x 12 m. The two wings were joined together with an elbow-shaped section in which there were several apartments on the second and third floors. On the first floor of this connecting section was an office of some transportation agency. The entrance to this particular section was in its southeast corner. The eastern wing of this building contained a total of 30 apartments, of which 23 were occupied by the German specialists, and the remaining seven, by key Soviet personnel. The wing was divided into five equal sections, each having two apartments on each floor.

[redacted] a total of ten could be seen on the east wing of the building. Each section of the east wing had two entrances, one on the east and the other on the west side. The eastern doors were all nailed up. The south wing was divided into two sections, each having six apartments, and the elbow-shaped section also had six apartments. All apartments in this building were identical with the exception of the ones in the northernmost section of the east wing. [redacted] drawn a simple sketch which shows the floor plan of my apartment and which will serve as an example for the remaining apartments in the building [see page 13]. There was a large basement in the building which was used for the storage of coal and potatoes used by the chemical plant. In the adjoining yard, west of the building, stood two smaller buildings. Both were about 40 m. x 8 m., and about 2 1/2 m. high, and were used as storage places for personal belongings of the tenants of the large building.

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Point 11

Building  
An L-shaped, three-story, white brick building, the eastern wing of which was about 90 m. x 12 m., and the southern wing, about 50 m. x 12 m. This building stood about 300 m. south-east of the building shown as Point 10 and was bordered on the east by the street, "Prospekt Kirova." The street (Point 12), began at the southern end of this building. This structure housed Rubezhnoye's club house, and was referred to as the "House of Culture." There were reading rooms, an auditorium, a canteen, and playrooms of all types here. The southern wing housed a photograph studio and a barber shop. The building's main entrance was located in the southern side of the south wing. Just off the building's southeast corner stood a statue of Lenin and of Stalin about 4 m. high made of white stone. The building was the center of all social activity in Rubezhnoye, and in winter time the house especially was jammed with people. Motion pictures and dances were given here very often, and dramatic entertainments presented by visiting actors was also a feature. The building was open daily until late at night, when it was locked and watched over by an unarmed, plainclothes, civilian guard who sat in the foyer of the building. This man was on duty most of the day and was relieved sometime during the late evening. It was not necessary to produce any kind of identification in order to enter the building. In addition to various recreational facilities which were present in the house, a technical library for the use of the Soviet and German specialists of the Khimkombinat and the NIOPIK laboratory was located on the second floor of the east wing. In order to take any of these books out, it was necessary to have written permission from the Soviet Komendant, BARANIK [redacted] Across the street, west of the "House of Culture," was a residential area consisting of two- to three-story, stone and frame houses, occupied by workers of all grades employed by the Khimkombinat and the NIOPIK laboratories.

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Point 12

Street  
"Bankovskaya Ulitsa," so called because of the location of the Rubezhnoye bank about 100 m. south of the clubhouse building (Point 11) on the eastern side of the street. The street was about 15 m. wide, cobblestone paved, with a two-meter wide sidewalk on the eastern side. On the west side of this street, about 90 m. south of the "House of Culture" (Point 11) was a small park about 150 m. x 100 m. surrounded by a 1 1/2-m. high stone wall. The bank for which the street was named was a two-story building, constructed of the usual white brick, and having a sheet metal-covered gable roof. The bank itself was commonly called the "Zberegatelnaya Kassa" (Savings Bank). There was an entrance to the building from the west, and all windows both front and back were barred. The building was guarded by a civilian guard armed with a rifle during duty hours and secured by the town police after office hours. [redacted] the police who guarded the bank at night did not patrol the building but merely stood in front. The bank was surrounded on the north, east, and south by a white brick wall 4 m. high.

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Point 13Street

Name unknown, about 10 m. wide, cobblestone paved, and extending to the west from the street shown as Point 14 to the stadium (Point 1). The street was illuminated by street lamps placed at intervals of about 50 m. on the northern side of the street. North and south of this street was a loosely scattered residential area.

Point 14Street

"Leninskaya Ulitsa," a 15-m. wide, cobblestone-paved street, extending generally north-south from the southeastern corner of the Khimkombinat's grounds, through the city of Rubezhnoye, and out to the northeast to the town of Varvarovka, about six or seven kilometers away. A commuter bus traveled along this street from the above-mentioned town to the Khimkombinat daily at 0600, 1400 and 2000 hours.

Point 15Street

An unpaved street, 10 m. wide, running due north and south past buildings shown as Point 16. The entire street was about 1½ kilometers long from its southern end to the town limits.

Point 16Buildings

A cluster of four white brick buildings which stood on the street shown as Point 15. The southernmost building was one story, about 10 m. x 5 m., and housed the Rubezhnoye pharmacy. On its front a sign hung on which the word "Apteka" was printed. There was one pharmacist who had three female employees. Business hours were from 0800 to 1800 hours daily and Sundays until 1400 hours. The next building was a two-story, 15-m. x 5-m. structure which housed the town's post office. The next building in the cluster was a two-story, 15-m. x 5-m. building which housed Rubezhnoye telephone exchange and radio repair shop. The telephone exchange was in operation 24 hours daily, but not the radio repair shop. The northernmost building was a two-story apartment house about 15 m. x 10 m. The entire cluster of buildings was surrounded by a small wooden fence on the east, north and south. Otherwise there were no security precautions of any kind apparent.

Point 17Police Station

A cluster of three buildings not connected to each other, housing Rubezhnoye's police station.   a separate sketch showing the layout of the buildings [see page 12]. Building No. 1 was a single-story structure of white brick, about 10 m. x 6 m., and was located at the intersection of the street (Point 12) and the road (Point 2). A main entrance to the building was located at the southern side of the structure. There was another entrance to the courtyard just north of this building on the street (Point 12) which was secured by a large double wooden gate and served as the vehicle entrance. The building itself housed the administrative section of the police force, where the desk sergeant had his office. Another double wooden gate

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was located at the eastern end of Building No.1, facing the road shown as Point 2. Building No.2 was a two-story, windowless structure about 16 m. x 6 m. ; [redacted] not know the function it served in the police station. Building No. 3 was a smaller building in the cluster and stood well inside the compound; it was hardly visible from the street as there was a board fence, 4 m. high, surrounding the entire area and shrubbery which was quite thickly planted along the streets. The police station's northern side was bordered by a white brick wall, 4 m. high. Which of the buildings housed the jail is unknown to me, but prisoners could be seen being marched in and out of the compound on various occasions.

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Point 21

Street

A 15-m. wide, unpaved road, extending in a northeasterly direction from the railroad station (Point 22), through the town of Rubezhnoye to the town of Beliavka about 7 kms. northeast of the former.

Point 22

Railroad Station

The station itself consisted of a two-story, white brick building, about 15 m. x 6 m., and housed the usual station personnel and administration. There were a total of ten tracks leading to this station, and it was considered a fairly large stopping point for both passenger and freight trains. A wooden platform, which was roofed over at the station proper, served as the passenger section. The station itself was located on the southwest side of the railroad line, (Points 4 and 25). The main road (Point 5) which ran through this area was located on the station's western side. Directly west of the station was a residential area, consisting of small, wooden frame houses which were actually part of the town of Rubezhnoye.

Point 23

Factory Area

An area of approximately 500,000 square meters, located about 1 1/2 kms. southeast of the southernmost tip of the town of Rubezhnoye. The area enclosed an explosives manufacturing plant called "Zavod 20." Entrance to unauthorized persons was strictly prohibited; hence, [redacted] cannot give more enlightening information on this plant. It was common knowledge that the plant produced TNT and other explosives. [redacted]

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[redacted] The majority of the Soviet workers who were employed in the plant lived in a settlement about one kilometer southwest of the factory area, situated on the western side of the railroad line (Point 25). (Settlement not shown on overlay.) Labor force and output of this factory are unknown to me, and [redacted] there was no official connection between this plant and the Khimkombinat. The area was patrolled by armed guards, but their status (civilian or military) is also unknown to me. A single track, SRG railroad spur, which branched off the railroad line (Point 25) at the southernmost tip of the Rubezhnoye town area, led into the factory area on the northwest.

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Point 24

This two-lane, paved road, 30 m. wide, was actually the continuation of the road shown as Point 5. At a point approximately 400 m. southeast of the railroad station (Point 22), the road intersected the tracks; at this intersection there was a guarded railroad crossing with the guard rail remaining in the down position at all times. The road continued in a southeasterly direction to the factory area (Point 23) from which point it was unpaved.

Point 25

Railroad Line

This line was the southern continuation of the railroad line shown as Point 4.

Point 26

Lake

A small, marshy lake, about 10,000 m. square. It was located about 400 m. southwest of the southernmost tip of Rubezhnoye. There was a larger, "comma"-shaped lake, about 2 kms. long and 200 m. wide, located about 200 m. southeast of this small lake. The larger lake's name was "Pesochnoye Ozero," and was used by the population for swimming and boating.

Point 27

Lake

"Beloye Ozero," about 600 m. x 150 m., located about 200 m. southwest of the railroad line (Point 25), and directly southwest of the settlement in the same area. It had very sandy beaches and was used by the population as a swimming and boating resort.


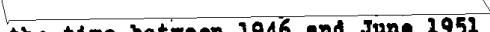

Point 28

Boardwalk

A wooden walk, 7 m. wide, built on piles 5 m. high to cross over a marshy area. The boardwalk extended in a south-westerly direction from the southern tip of the Khimkombinat's grounds to a point about one kilometer away where it joined a road (Point 32). At this intersection the boardwalk ended, its end supported by an ash and sand foundation. The boardwalk was built of roughly hewn logs, was very shaky, and could accommodate only pedestrian traffic.

Point 29

Reservoir

From the photography on the map  there appears  a large reservoir. In the time between 1946 and June 1951  never saw anything that even resembled such a landmark. The area in question was flat and sandy; it did not look as if anything had ever stood there.

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Point 30

Unidentified Area

This area, as well as that of the reservoir (Point 29), was also a completely desolate, sandy dune, on which nothing was erected, nor did it look like anything could have been built there at any time. This entire area, west and southwest of the Khimkombinat's grounds, the area of the several lakes and the reservoir, was subjected to heavy floods during the early spring months. The Donets River (Point 33) rose above its banks to an approximate distance of two kilometers on either side. The Khimkombinat's grounds were not affected by these floods since

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that area was between five and eight meters higher than the surrounding Donets Basin.

Point 31Road Branch

An unpaved, sandy road, 10 m. wide, which was the branch of the main road (Points 5 and 24). This branch skirted the southwestern end of the Khimkombinat's grounds, then continued in a southerly direction over the lake (Point 35) on a built-up earthen dam, and finally extended into the road shown as Point 32. This branch was the only connection between the road (Points 5 and 24), and the road (Point 32).

Point 32Road

An unpaved dirt road, 10 m. wide, running in a southerly direction from the road branch (Point 31) to the bridge (Point 34). This road led to Voroshilovgrad in the south and is the main artery to that city. The road was inoperative during the spring months because heavy floods put it under several feet of water, and in autumn because of heavy rains the road was a sea of mud and hence again unusable. During the remaining months of the year, there was much heavy freight traffic along this road from points north and Rubezhnoye.

Point 33River

A shallow, unnavigable river, 200 m. wide, which flowed in a southeasterly direction at the rate of about 5 km. per hour in normal times. The river was completely frozen over from December to March. The soil on either side of the river was black and extremely fertile, and this basin area was therefore thoroughly exploited by the population as evidenced by the many small vegetable gardens scattered throughout the Rubezhnoye area.

Point 34Bridge

A 100-m. x 5-m. wooden bridge which could accommodate about five tons and had a railing, 1½ m. high, on either side. The bridge spanned the Donets River at one of its narrow points. The road (Point 32), directed all its vehicular traffic over this bridge. It was built upon piles driven into the river bed from which it got its entire support. In normal times the bridge stood about 3 m. over the surface of the water. After each flood, a new bridge had to be constructed as the old one would be washed away.

Point 35Lake

A lake, 600 m. x 100 m. which bordered the Khimkombinat on the southwest. It was used as a waste disposal reservoir by the Khimkombinat; hence the water was dangerously contaminated and emitted a strong odor. To prevent the spread of contamination during the flood season from this lake, an earthen dam was built on the lake's southwestern banks. This helped only a little, and the contaminated water spread in spite of the precautions. The waste fluids were emptied into the lake by means of an open drainage canal which ran through the center of the Khimkombinat's grounds.

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Point 41

Unidentified Area

[redacted] there were several heavily damaged empty buildings which were built in an area resembling a coliseum.

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Unlocated Sites

2. Approximately 10 kms. southeast of the town of Rubezhnoye was another urban area which incorporated a large factory. This entire area was called Liskhimstroy. It was connected with Rubezhnoye with only one single-track railroad, and possibly a road which branched off the main highway running through Rubezhnoye.

[redacted] the factory in Liskhimstroy was also serviced by small aircraft which landed directly on the flat, sandy areas on which Liskhimstroy stood. In the years between 1945 and 1951 a large factory was in the process of being built and was to be the Soviet counterpart of the German Leuna Plants. Without a doubt this factory was to produce synthetic ammonia and nitric acid. In the spring of 1951 [redacted] from Rubezhnoye reddish-brown smoke emitted from the tall brick smokestacks in Liskhimstroy, a typical sign of the manufacture of nitric acid. [redacted] the Liskhimstroy factory was to produce nitrogen base fertilizers from nitric acid and ammonia. Whether further chemical products were to be produced here, [redacted]

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3. In late summer of 1947 six German specialists, all former employees of the Leuna plant in Germany, appeared in Liskhimstroy. From October 1946 until this time they had been somewhere in Moscow performing work unknown [redacted] In the beginning, association with these specialists was tolerated, but later it became increasingly difficult to maintain any social contact officially. In order to avoid any trouble with the authorities, the Rubezhnoye specialists broke nearly all contact with these Liskhimstroy specialists.

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General Description of the Countryside

4. The area west of the Donets River was generally hilly and stony and coniferously forested. The river bed and its banks, for a distance of about two kilometers, was marshy and contained many small lakes of stagnant water; otherwise, the soil was very rich and fertile. The northern side of the river was the opposite; it was sandy and barren, except for patches of trees and vegetation scattered about. This sandy area extended for a distance of about 10 kilometers after which the soil gradually became darker and more fertile. The topsoil in the sandy areas went down to a depth of about 2 m., under which a layer of white clay could be found. The vegetation in the northern section was also of a coniferous nature with much low shrubbery. The swampy areas near the river banks gave one the impression of a jungle with its fern and very thick foliage. The area was in parts supervised by

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State forestry commissions which took great pains in preserving the pine and cedar trees. The more fertile fields which were not already under cultivation by local citizens were full of fine, green clover which was used by cattle for grazing purposes. From various local newspapers it was apparent that the government greatly encouraged forestry control and irrigation. The area north of Rubezhnoye, past the sandy area, was rich with small vegetable gardens and collective farms. These were engaged in growing potatoes, corn and sunflowers for seeds, these three items being the Soviet basic staple foods. Beyond the fertile areas to the north were the famous Russian steppes.

5. All arable land in the area was annually divided free of charge among the employees of the Khimkominat at the rate of 50 - 100 square meters per person. These lots were used for vegetable and fruit gardening, the crops and crop proceeds going to the individual who raised them. In the cases of the lower paid employees, this proved an additional source of income and food. The fruits and vegetables sold in the free bazaars came from these gardens. According to local citizens the farmers on the collective farms were quite self-sustaining since the land sufficiently supplied their needs. With the money earned from the sale of their vegetables, many of the amateur farmers were able to purchase small numbers of livestock and in this way further boosted their source of income. It must be born in mind that these amateur farmers were such only by necessity and were primarily factory workers.

#### Urban Area

6. The town of Rubezhnoye had an approximate population of 20,000, most of whom were employed directly or indirectly by the Khimkombinat. The central area of the town was thickly populated and consisted of two- or three-story white brick houses. Most of the families were crowded together in small living quarters, generally as many as five persons to one room. The outer districts were not as crowded, and most living quarters were one-story wooden frame houses. Most of the streets were lined with poplar trees and hedgerows. The town had been badly hit during the war but had been nicely rebuilt since.

#### Utilities

7. The town of Rubezhnoye was serviced by 220-volt, AC current which was supplied by a power plant in Dnepropetrovsk. This was the only source of power (the small power station at the Khimkombinat was only a relay station). The current in the city was extremely low and during the daytime only about 80 volts were available for home use. There were frequent malfunctions in the supply of current, and a program of power conservation was in effect. Occasionally, the power would be entirely turned off between 9700 and 1700 hours, but this did not follow a regular pattern, and its cause was thought to be defective equipment at the plant in Dnepropetrovsk. Power turn-offs were very common in the winter of 1950-1951. The Khimkombinat did not suffer from lack of power at any time because it had its own thermal power plant within its grounds.

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8. The town and the Khimkombinat were supplied with water from a reservoir located somewhere north of the city. The pressure was poor, and most apartments located on the second and third floors had hardly any water between the hours of 1700 and 2000. This was especially true during the summer months. Although the water was purified with chlorine, it had a soft, pleasant taste. Because of the sandy soil in the area, it was very difficult to locate water main breaks, and the maintenance personnel who did this work constantly complained since these malfunctions occurred quite frequently. Sometimes these breaks would go undetected for weeks before something was done about them.
9. Cooking gas was not available in Rubeshnoye, and all cooking and heating was done with coal. It was plentiful and cheap in this area, but the only difficulty was the lack of delivery services. In order to obtain coal, one had to provide one's own means of transportation.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

10. All the German specialists were restricted to the official town limits of Rubeshnoye, but the latter were never defined. In 1949, the specialists were required to sign in and out, and everywhere they went they were required to be accompanied by an "interpreter." This rule slackened down after that year, and we were given free rein in the town. Some of the Germans did breach the travel restriction and made trips outside the town but did not encounter any difficulty. Local trains could be used without attracting attention, as tickets could be purchased aboard the trains. The express trains were reserved, and in order to obtain tickets from the station ticket booths, it was necessary to be in the possession of official travel orders issued by the plant or laboratory where one worked.

CIVIL AIR DEFENSES

11. There were absolutely no air raid precautions of any kind in or near the city of Rubeshnoye. There were no bunkers, no air raid sirens or antiaircraft units or installations anywhere in Rubeshnoye.

POLICE AND SECURITY

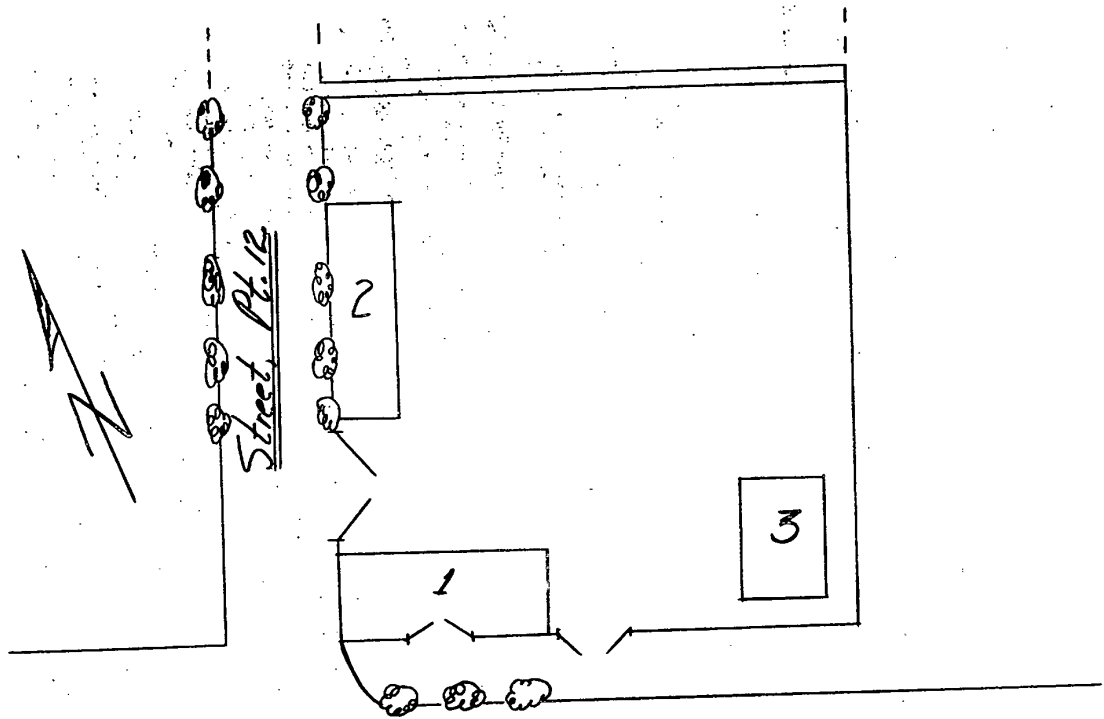
12. It was strictly prohibited to photograph any official buildings or Soviet citizens. The police force in the town consisted of about 100 men who were supervised by a chief with the rank of major. Their uniforms were navy blue, cut to the pattern of the Soviet army uniform. They were armed with sidearms; only occasionally did one see a policeman carrying a carbine. In 1951 the police uniform was slightly changed in that a bit more color was added to it, but it remained the same in design. The force's average age was about 25, and they were all husky, healthy looking young men. Only the officers were somewhat older, their average age being about 35. [redacted] no impression of constant police surveillance in Rubeshnoye, and the police were seldom seen. As far as could be seen by the local citizens of Rubeshnoye, there were no special police training activity going on. The police were very friendly and courteous to everybody, and there were no conflicts of any kind between them and the population. The officers of the police force were apparently well paid, as one of them lived in the same housing project with us, and his family was always clean and well dressed. There were no police vehicles of any kind in the town of Rubeshnoye, and all police activity was performed on foot.

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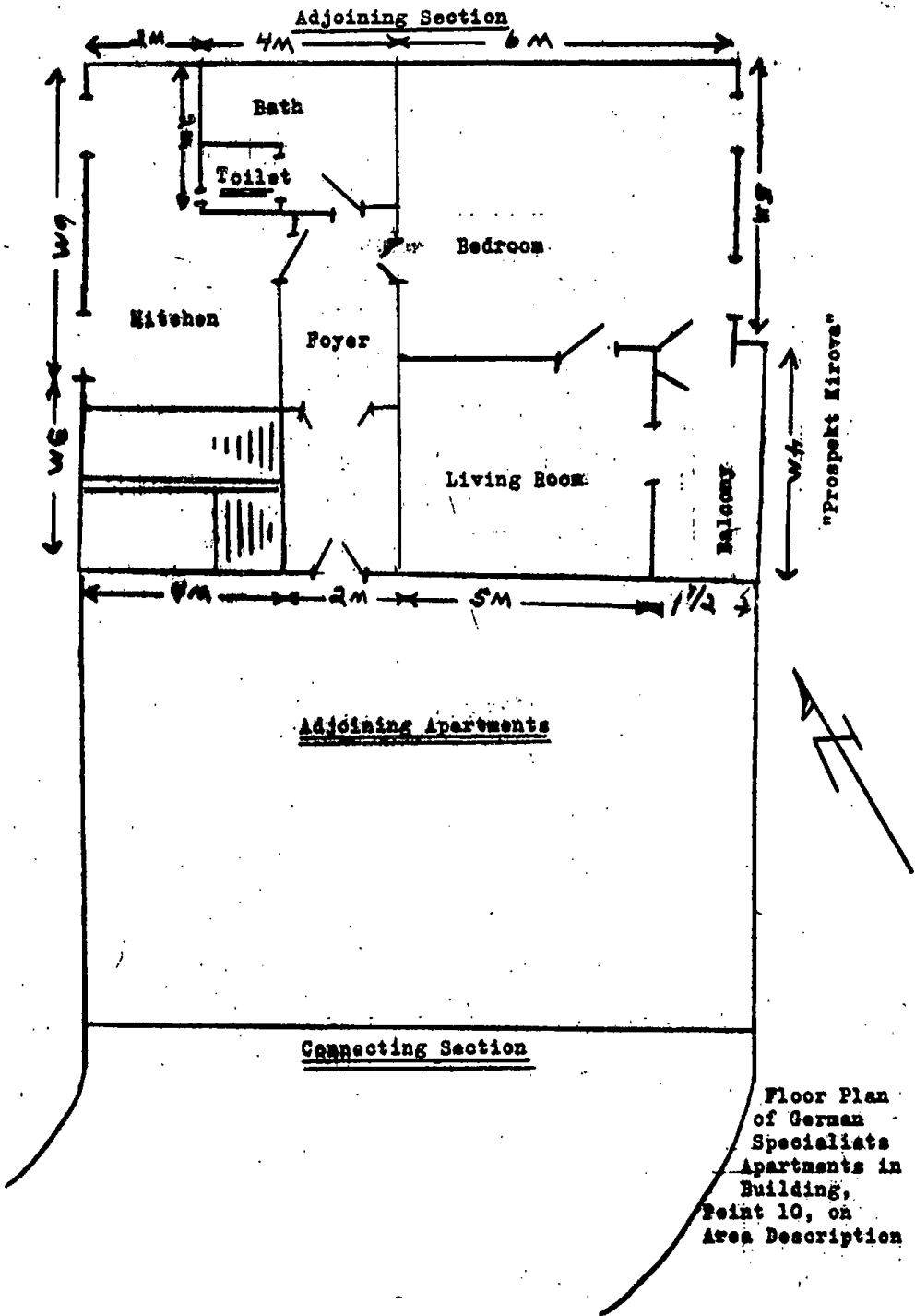
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Sketch of Pt. 17, Police Station, Area Description

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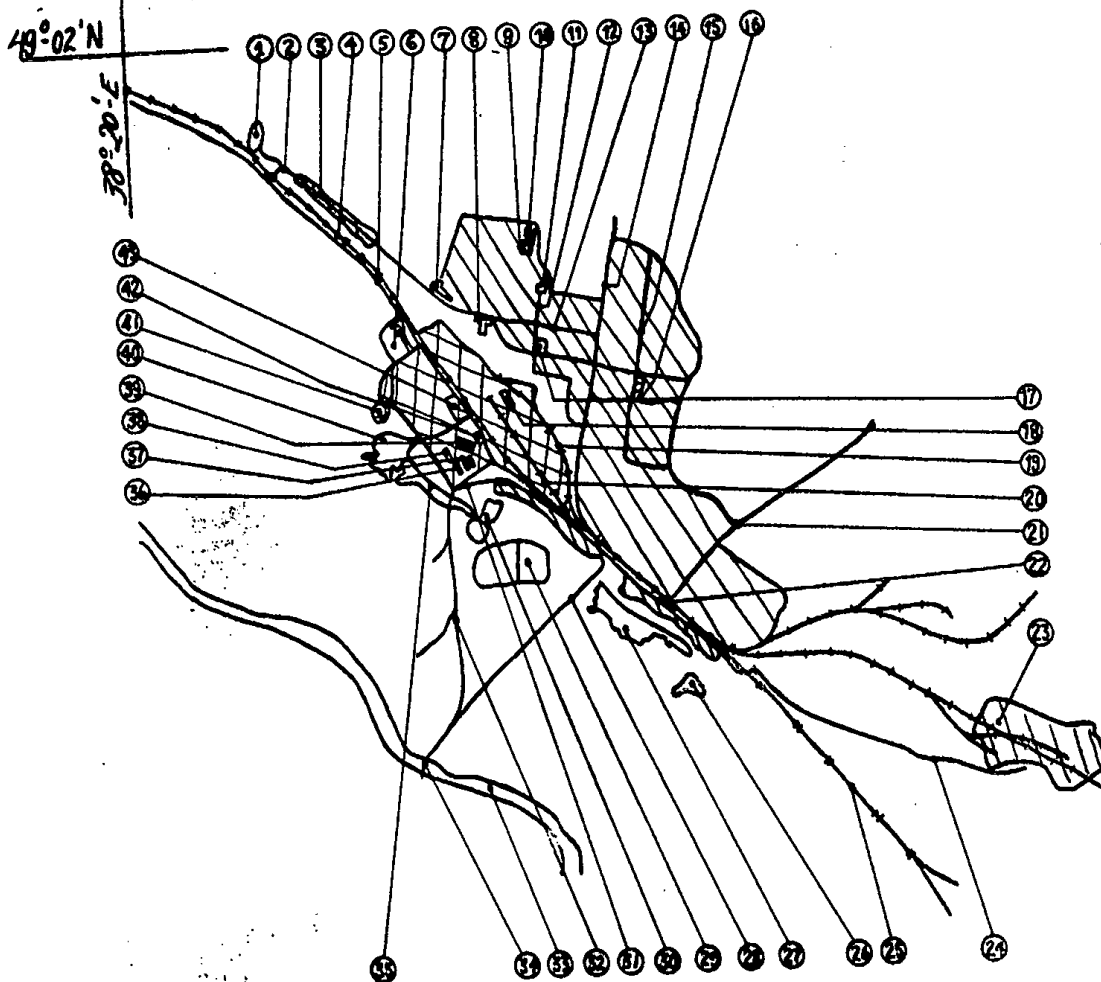
Floor Plan of German Specialists Apartments in Building, Point 10, on Area Description

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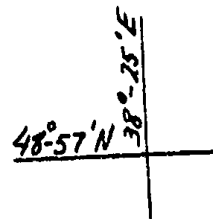


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OVERLAY OF USAF TCM-25 0234-9969-1-25M LISICHANSK

SCALE: 1:25,000



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