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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Military Works on Turkish Frontier

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1. During the summer of 1953, detachments from the Elkhovo Brigade of the Bulgarian Labor Army were busy building artillery emplacements in the fortified zone along the Turkish frontier.
2. Each of these emplacements consists of a circular trench two meters in diameter, with a concrete platform for a base. On one side there is an opening for the gun. On each side there are subterranean shelters for the artillerymen. These dugouts are three meters long, and one meter wide, with a height, at the entrance, of 1.6 meters. The dugouts get deeper toward the end. One end has a depth of 1.8 meters, the other 2.2 meters. Within the dugouts there are also niches for the soldiers to use in case a shell explodes in the emplacement. At the end of one of the pair of dugouts, there is an L-shaped transverse section, two meters long by one meter wide, for ammunition storage. At both ends of the dugout there is a concrete pipe underground to carry off the water.
3. The shelters are made of bricks, laid lengthwise. The roof is brick vaulting. It is covered with earth thirty-five centimeters thick and masked with sod. The floor is stamped earth.
4. These artillery emplacements are from three to eight hundred meters apart, depending on the configuration of the terrain. The emplacements here described are one and a half kilometers from the village of Voden, district of Elkhovo, about thirty kilometers from the Turkish frontier.

ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch of Artillery Emplacement

252.1 20M
176.1 20M

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