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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Construction of Airfield Near Čáslav

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1. An airfield is being built between the villages of Čáslav and Chotusice. The field is north of the Kutná Hora-Čáslav road. The ground is hard loam, grown over with grass. Drainage is being installed. The prevailing wind is from the northwest. The ground is open without obstacles. In order to provide enough room for the field, the Čáslav churchyard had to be evacuated.
2. Permanent structures are being erected at the northwest part of the area, and will be completed in the winter of 1953. Thus far they consist of a staff building 25 by 50 m; two barracks, each 40 by 80 M; two hangars, divided into three parts by fire walls each 50 by 250 m. A munitions depot is also being built.
3. The runway is not yet ready, although a beginning on it was made in the spring of 1953 in the northwest corner of the field. An engineer staff of the Czechoslovak Air Force is in charge of the work, consisting of 30 men, of whom 11 are engineer officers. A large unit of the Konstruktiva Building Trust is in charge of the actual work, consisting of 10 engineers and about 300 workers. It has an auto park of 40 trucks.
4. A PTP battalion of about 700 men has also been brought to the place.

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