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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Brest Oblast)	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	50X1
SUBJECT	1. City of Brest 2. Subordination of Soviet Fire Departments	DATE DISTR.	4 October 1954	
DATE OF INFO.	<input type="text"/>	NO. OF PAGES	9	
PLACE ACQUIRED	<input type="text"/>	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	
		REFERENCES	<input type="text"/>	50X1

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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REPORT NO.
50X1

COUNTRY USSR (Brest Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 9 August 1954

SUBJECT 1. City of Brest
2. Subordination of Soviet Fire Departments

NO. OF PAGES 8

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Population statistics over a period of years

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As of November 1950, the population of Brest at approximately 100,000. He was unable to give any other past or present population figures. The 100,000 figure represented an estimate based on size and comparison to other areas of the Soviet Union that he had visited.

2. Density of population in sections

His activities were concentrated primarily in the business section of Brest, where all of the main government buildings, post office, militia and theaters were located. The majority of the population resided in the area surrounding this section. The most congested area was the northern section of the city, where the railroad and industrial workers lived.

3. Segregation and other coexistent problems

No major segregation of classes, ethnic groups or religious factions existed. The major ethnic group was Ukrainian.

4. Density of built-up areas

Because Brest was primarily a transportation and transloading center, it was rather neglected as far as reconstruction of war damage was concerned. Major emphasis was, however, placed on the reconstruction of warehouses, depots and railroad lines that were destroyed during the war. Consequently, up to 1950, the only major improvements in the city were the rebuilding of a theater and electric power station. From his personal observation, he stated that the city showed no signs of any extensive reconstruction or build-up of any specific areas within it.

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5. Neighborhood differentiation

To the best of his knowledge, there appeared to be no postal or police sub-divisions in the city. No other information.

6. Street categories and condition, normal traffic

In general, the city had very good streets, the majority of which were constructed of stone (inlaid rocks) or were surfaced with asphalt. The lone highway that ran through it (in an east-west direction) was made of concrete. In his opinion, all of the roads in the city as well as those leading in and out of it were adequate to support the limited amount of traffic that utilized them. The bulk of the traffic through Brest was truck traffic, while the motorcycle was the most predominant means of transportation within the city.

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8. Construction features, by street category (features, width, drains, lighting)

a. City streets

All streets within the city were approximately six meters wide and had curbs and drainage outlets. In addition, they were constructed so that there was enough space between the curb and walk in which trees could be planted. Streets were illuminated by electric lights placed on the corner of each block.

b. Main highway

The main highway that ran through the city was about 12 m. wide. Within city limits, it had all of the features of a normal city street. However, in the outskirts, it sloped from the center to permit the draining of water from it.

9. Street clearance, congestion, traffic control

The city police (militia) controlled all traffic within Brest. There were only two red lights in the city, and those were manually operated. Traffic regulations were lax in that there were no speed limits and no one-way streets to facilitate faster through-traffic. Emphasis was placed on proper documentation of vehicles, operator's permits and general administrative controls rather than on driving safety and procedure. [redacted] there appeared to be no serious traffic problems in Brest due to the small number of vehicles there.

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10. Institutes and government buildings

See Enclosure A for location of government and civic institutions.

11. Railroad offices

The Main Administration for Railroads (Glavnoye Zheleznodorozhnoye Upravleniye) for Brest was located in the city of Baranovichi N 53-08, E 26-027, USSR, and controlled all railroad traffic for the Brest area. [redacted] this city was the main switching center for all east-west traffic in the region. [redacted] there were branch offices in Brest but could give no information on their location.

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12. Collection method of water supply

He said that water within Brest was piped to homes from central water supply point. Almost every home he had visited within the city was equipped with adequate water facilities. He was not able to give any information on meter systems or any other controls in distribution of water. He said the main supply came from the Bug River, which flows through the city. No other information.

13. Distribution of water supply

No information.

14. Maintenance of water supply.

No information.

15. Sewerage, collection and disposal

No information.

16. Storm drainage

50X1 there was no storm drainage in Brest.

17. Industrial waste

No information.

18. Garbage disposal

No information.

19. Insect and rodent control

No information

20. Electric current characteristics

He said that 220 AC was used throughout the city. No other information.

21. Source of ice manufacturing

No information.

22. Ice storage

No information.

23. Cold storage

No information

24. Transient services

In 1950, there was no city transit service of any kind in Brest. Taxis were the only means of public transportation available. There were about 20 taxis in the city.

25. Explosive storage

No knowledge.

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26. Storage areas for munitions

50X1 [redacted] a historic fortress near the Bug River and fortifications in various sections surrounding the city were utilized as storage areas for food and munitions during the war. He also heard that during the war the Soviets destroyed all of these fortifications, which were underground, and that they had never rebuilt them.

27. Hospitals, location, type and capacity

Minor injuries that did not require hospitalization were treated at a polyclinic (name unknown). This clinic was also the main examination center for the city license bureau. All driver's license applicants had to get a physical examination there before they received their licenses. [redacted] what type of patients were treated there. He had no other information about hospitals in this city.

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28. Billeting potential

50X1 [redacted] the billeting potential of Brest was poor in that there were no large hotels, pensions or other large structures that could be converted into living quarters in case of an emergency. There were no large casernes in the vicinity of the city. No other information.

29. Major bakeries, restaurants, commissaries

To the best of his knowledge, there were no large bakeries in the city. There were, however, many small bakeries that made bread and pastries, but he never had the occasion to purchase these items and so could not give the bakeries' locations.

Brest had no large restaurants. Most places were a bar-restaurant combination, catering primarily to the drinkers. Being the only station change for Soviet personnel returning from Germany and Poland, the city had much transient trade. Officers and EM had a 10-hour wait for trains going east, and, as a result, they usually went on a drinking spree there to celebrate their return to the USSR. Soviet soldiers knew the city as a center of prostitution, and during 1949-50, there were many prostitutes there. Friends and taxi drivers told him that the VD rate among troops returning to the USSR via the city was great.

There were no large commissaries in Brest.

30. Laundry, baths

The city had a large public bath (Gorodskaya Banya) which was open every day except Sunday. This bath house was available to all classes of people and provided them with hot and cold water, steam baths and massage facilities at a very inexpensive price.

He had no information on laundries.

31. Functions of the police

50X1 [redacted] the police force was divided into various departments. Traffic control had the responsibility of checking all motor-vehicular operation, license issue and traffic control in the city. The riot or alert department kept order at workers' meetings and checked documents within the city in an effort to find subversive elements. The investigation department investigated all criminal acts committed within the city.

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He believed there were many other departments within the police structure, but he said these operated, in general, on a minor scale since they had no authority to arrest military or government officials. Their main function, therefore, was to keep order among the civilian population.

32. Police stations, jails and prisons

See Enclosure A.

33. Special police control areas

There were no restricted areas in Brest other than the border control check points and border area. [redacted]

[redacted]. The border was patrolled by MVD Border Troops. He could give no other information.

34. Other police controls

No information.

35. Fire department

See Enclosure A for the location of the city fire department. While he was in the city, there was never a fire to his knowledge. Therefore, [redacted]

their equipment or to watch the method used to fight fires. [redacted] he was in an apartment that was situated above a fire station. From conversations with the firemen, he learned that they were members of the military service. He was told that the fire departments in the USSR were under jurisdiction of the MVD and that the chief of all fire-fighting units in the USSR was, in 1950, Gen. Maj. (fnu) BOGDANOV. He presumed that the Brest fire department was organized along the same lines. He could give no information on strength or duties of a fire department.

[redacted] there was a railroad fire department which was responsible for fighting fires in railroad installations. No other information.

36. Fire-fighting equipment

No information.

37. Water supply for fire fighting

Every block within the city had a water hydrant, [redacted] these were to be used for fighting fires. He could give no other information about the hydrants.

38. Effectiveness of the fire department

No information.

39. Civil defense

He claimed that he never heard of any civil defense measures or organizations in the city. He believed that no civil defense organization existed in the USSR.

40. Headquarters posts

No information.

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41. Equipment adequacy

No information.

42. Shelters, first aid stations and evacuation plans

50X1 [redacted] shelters or first aid stations nor heard of an evacuation plan in Brest.

43. Emergency communications

No information.

44. Workers employed in major industry

There were no major industries in the city. It was primarily a transportation and transloading center. [redacted] about 80% of the working class were people employed in some aspect of railroad operation and maintenance.

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45. Source of raw materials

No information.

46. Markets

No information.

1. [redacted] Comment: According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, the population of Brest was 55,374 in 1939.

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Enclosure:

A. Pinpoint Locations of Installations in Brest

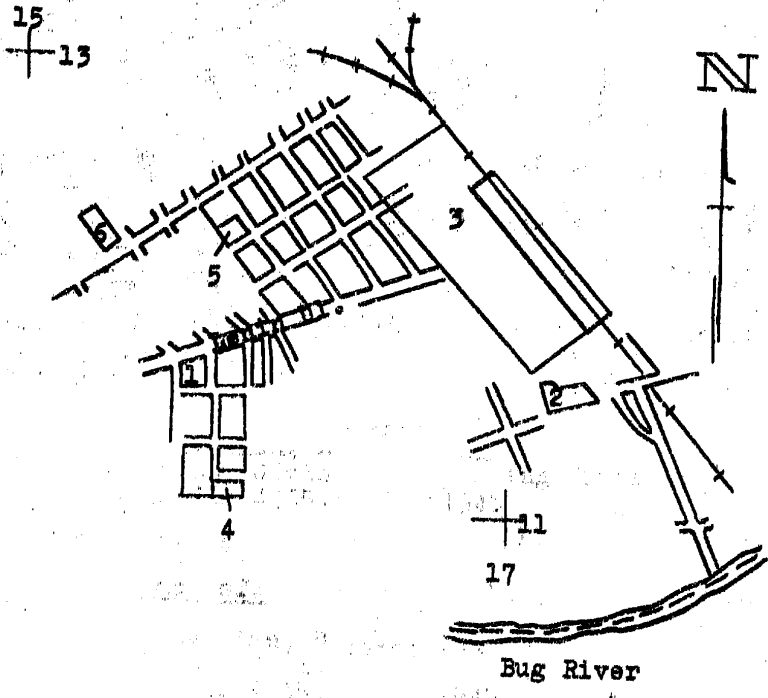
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Enclosure A

Pinpoint Locations of Installations in BREST



Map Ref:
 City Plan, BREST, USSR
 First edition
 Number 4435, dated 1943

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Enclosure A

Pinpoint Locations of Installations in BREST



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LEGEND

1. Party headquarters building: 3-story brick bldg, size unk. Communist Party had its meeting and lecture halls there.
2. Internee (DP) camp. Area was surrounded by a three-meter-high concrete wall. [redacted] displaced persons from Poland and USSR satellite countries, who were once Soviet citizens and wished to return to the USSR, were detained and checked there for political reliability. No other information.
3. Warehouse and transloading area. No other information.
4. Fire department.
5. Public bath house.
6. BREST police headquarters.

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