

INFORMATION REPORT
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PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY
Rumania

SUBJECT
Area Description - Masloc/Local Conditions

REPORT NO. [redacted] 50X1

DATE DISTR
31 Dec 1954

NO. OF PAGES
4

NO. OF ENCLS.
1 50X1

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ween which,

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2. The village of Masloc was located between Timisoara and Arad. On Enclosure A I have shown the roads and villages in this area. The number of houses in these villages in early 1951 was as follows:

Giarmata	1500 houses
Rischia, Gara	300 "
Fibis	700 "
Ramitea-Mica	170 "
Charlottenburg	270 "
Altringen	100 "
Bogda	120 "
Sindar	100 "
Comest	200 "
Masloc	300 "
Alios	700 "
Hidegut	1000 "
Firiteaz	200 "
Fiscut	200 "
Cherestesa	300 "

3. The railroad running between Timisoara and Lipova was single-tracked except in Alios where three tracks were provided for passing. In 1949 to 1951 there were three trains a day travelling in each direction from Lipova and Timisoara. The trains left in the early morning, around noon, and in the late afternoon, making stops at Giarmata, Rischia Gara, Fibis, Masloc, Alios, Hidegut and Neudorf. The railroad was in operable condition and I don't recall having seen any maintenance work performed on it after 1946.

4. The main roads in the area, i.e., from Timisoara to Masloc to Lipova and from Fibis to Arad, were about 25 meters wide with a profile as follows:

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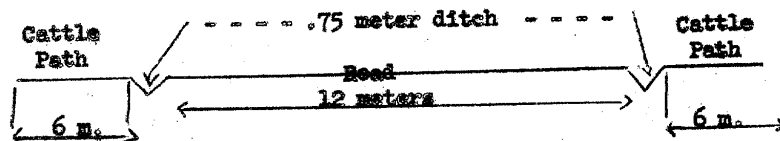
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There was a little gravel on the road but, because there was little vehicular travel, the roads remained in fairly good shape. I do not believe more than five or 10 vehicles per day used these roads.

5. The secondary roads in the area, from Arad to Magloc, and from Magloc to Curvestia and Hodos, were dirt, although there was a little gravel on the road from Magloc to Comeat. These roads were 10 to 12 meters wide. The road from Comeat to Charlottenburg, on which trucks hauled lumber for loading on the railroad, was in poor shape and was not maintained despite the relatively heavy traffic.
6. The area shown on the map is all cultivated except for the section shown as covered by forest. Crops grown were mostly wheat and included potatoes, barley, beans, sugar beets and very good tobacco.
7. I will describe the town of Magloc which is typical for the area between Lipova and Timisoara. The average property in Magloc was about 20 x 80 meters, although some lots were twice as big. Almost all lots contained a one-floor brick house, a wooden barn, and had a vegetable garden in the back of the plot. In 1951 all privately owned animals, except for a few chickens and geese, had been appropriated by the government. By tradition, each lot owner was responsible for maintaining the section of road in front of his house. Behind each house there was a five-meter well which rarely ran dry. These wells are typical for the area shown in Enclosure A except from the area east of Comeat, which required 30 meter wells.
8. In 1951 everybody who wanted to work would gather in the center of the town where he would be assigned to a given farm or area for work. The farms provided horse or tractor-drawn carts to take the people to work, up to as much as 15 kilometers from their own town. The workers were usually home by six p.m. There was no social life and most everyone stayed home in the evening. The working week was six days. On Sundays everybody went to church in the morning and gathered for the soccer matches in the afternoon. The better soccer players had good jobs in the state farm system. Magloc won the area championship in 1950. The soccer games were closely contested and when the team played in another town many of the villagers travelled along with the team. Northwest of Ramitea Mică there were hills for skiing which were well known as far away as Satu Mare.
9. The rationing system in effect covered flour, sugar, clothing, meat and one or two other things. The rations allowed were -

120 kilograms of flour per year per person
0.3 " Sugar per person for two months
2 " of Meat per month per person
One pair of shoes per year per person
One suit or dress per year per person.

The grocery store or clothing store in each town maintained a ration list with one number for each house in the village. If there were two or three families in the house this was noted on the card. Each purchase of the rationed commodities was immediately checked off on the list. It was not always possible to get a rationed article even if sufficient money was available. There was no black market in the village. I believe up to 25% of the inhabitants of Magloc stole wheat at one time or another from the

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state granary in Magloc. Throughout the area between Timisoara and Lipova the people were 100% ethnic Germans, until about 1947 when a few Greeks, Russians, Bessarabians, Turks and Gypsies were imported. These people were settled in homes appropriated from the owners and were given a plot of land near the village. In 1951 the property was taken back by the state and the "colonistas" were forced to find homes of their own.

10. The German language is prevalent in the area with a little Rumanian. The Russian language was introduced in the schools about 1947 but was rarely spoken outside of the schools.
11. In 1949 some of the people in Magloc worked on the preparation of rice beds on the south side of the Mures River about five kilometers west of Lipova. Here on 12 thousand acres of good black soil, a dam system with valves, was prepared for the rice beds. The ground was levelled to within five centimeters of a plane and was filled with river water to a depth of 10 centimeters for rice growing. The valve system provided for complete drainage of the cultivated area. There were two or three diesel-powered pumps to draw the water from the river.

12. Since 1895 it has been customary for inhabitants of this region to carry a two-inch by three-inch identification book which included a photo and a physical description of the holder.

Most people did not carry the books except when they were going to one of the larger cities. Also, since 1895, all marriages, births, and deaths were registered both in the village office and in the church office. A duplicate of the registration was easily obtained by payment of a fee and recognizance by the city or church officials.

13. Magloc had a large building for storage of state farm wheat, at the center of the town. Flour mills were located in the following villages:

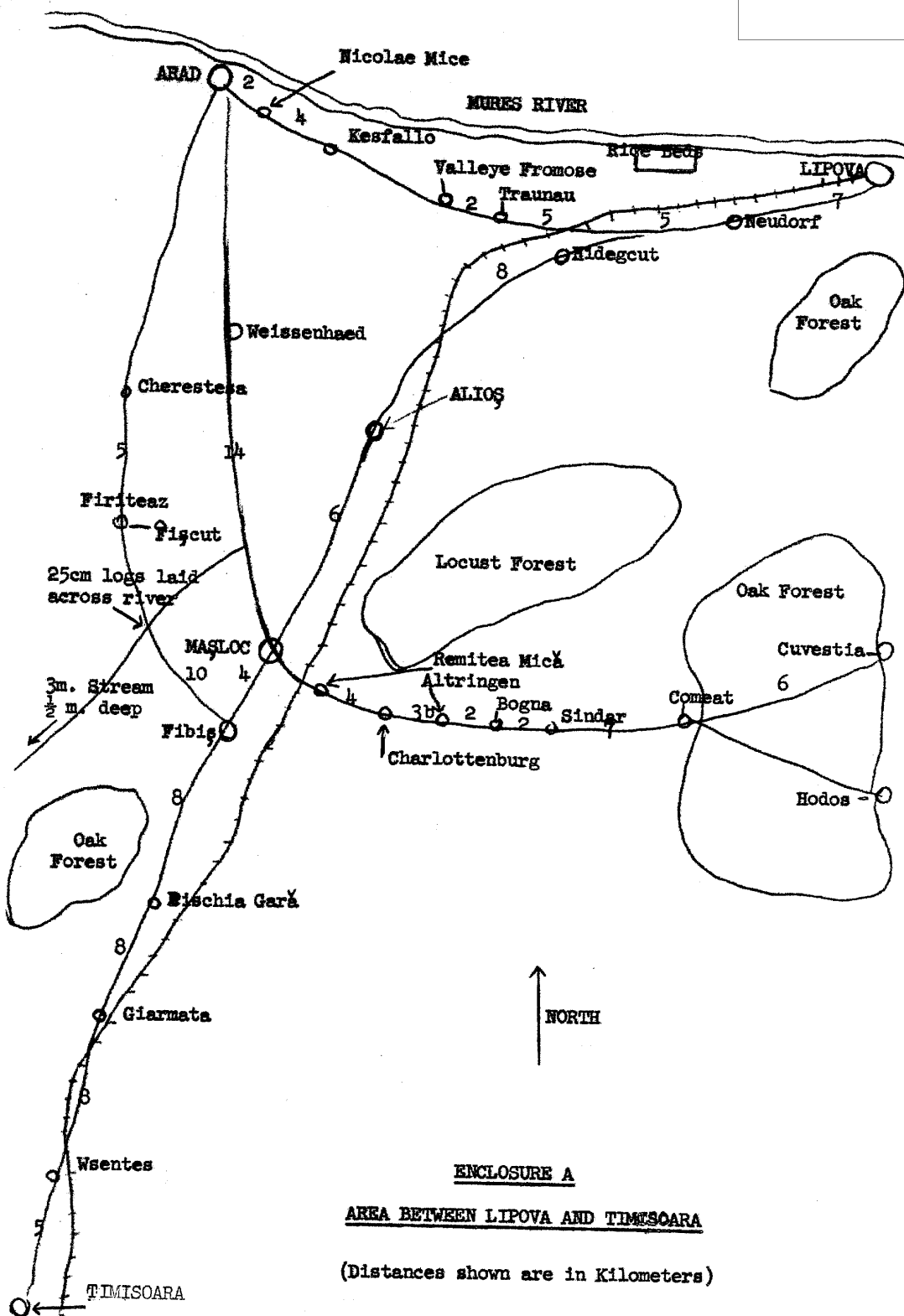
Hidegcut	Four mills - (one destroyed)
Fibig	One Mill
Rischia Gară	" "
Giarmata	" "
Charlottenburg	" "
Cherestesa	" "
Kesfallu	" "
Nicholai Mica	" "
Valleye Fromose	" " (the largest mill)

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ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch Showing Area Between Lipova and Timisoara

621.42 60M
754.22 60M
852.1 60M
784.3 60M
107.71 60M
107.72 60M
722.811 60M
759.1 60M

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ENCLOSURE A

AREA BETWEEN LIPOVA AND TIMISOARA

(Distances shown are in Kilometers)

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