

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT Production of Rocket Grenades and Bombs at the
 Alexander Rankovic Factory in Rijeka

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1A

ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. The Alexander Rankovic factory in Rijeka produces airplane rocket grenades and airplane rocket bombs propelled by solid fuel. The rocket grenades are caliber 75 mm. and weigh 15 kilograms, of which three kilograms are cordite used for propulsion purposes. These grenades are installed under the wings of pursuit planes, four to eight grenades ordinarily being used for firing at enemy bomber formations. The grenades are propelled from tubes equipped with devices for absorbing the backward thrust. They are fired by electric current, the initial speed being increased by means of compressed air to about 300 meters per second. They are ordinarily fired at a distance of about 2,000 meters (sic) from the target.
2. The rocket bomb is a solid cylinder of metal, the fore part of which is filled with explosive and the rear with a rocket charge of nitroglycerine powder. The bomb is dropped upon ground objectives at a distance of 2,000 meters from the target, primarily fortifications, tanks, ships, et cetera. A bomb launched from a plane flying at 430 kilometers per hour will cover a distance of 2,000 meters in five seconds, having reached a speed of 650 kilometers per hour because of its own rocket propulsion.
3. Reportedly 1,500 units of each type are produced monthly, a figure which appears exaggerated. The total production of December 1949 was rejected by the inspection commission because excessive charges were inserted, causing premature explosion of the bombs.

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 4
No Change in Class. ☐
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Class. Change To TS S
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 27 JUN 1978