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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Belorussian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 4 Feb. 1952

25X1 SUBJECT Border Fortifications at Brest-Litovsk

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## REFERENCE COPY

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. A system of concrete gun emplacements and concrete infantry shelters, echeloned up to a depth of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 km, were observed along the eastern bank of the Bug River, south of the former fortress. Troops were stationed in the defensive system. No concrete emplacements and pillboxes were seen east of the Bug River, in the triangle formed by the railroad line, the river, and the old fortress.

2. When the train approached the border, the doors of the cars occupied by PWs were locked and security measures increased.

The following obstacles and installations were seen along the eastern bank of the Bug River (from East to West):

- Line of trip-wire entanglements, about 8 to 10 meters wide
- Two barbed-wire fences, about 5 to 6 meters apart
- Marshy strip, about 10 meters wide
- Strip guarded by sentries, about 80 meters wide
- Board fence with watchtowers with machine guns and searchlights on top. The watchtowers were located 100 to 150 meters apart.

3. Four small and two large concrete emplacements, surrounded by protective earth mounds, were in the area north of the railroad line, about 800 meters east of the Bug River. Multiple-belt entanglements were in front of the emplacements. More earth walls were seen farther to the north.

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watchtowers occupied by guards were along the eastern bank of the Bug River, to the north and south of the railroad line.

4. The bridgehead southwest of the railroad bridge, an area about 1 1/2 km wide and 700 meters deep, was surrounded by a 2-meter board fence. Another wooden fence runs in the area along the eastern bank of the river, on both sides of the railroad line. In that area construction work was done at four or five sites (covered with board roofing). Several lines of barbed-wire fences were observed some hundred meters east of the river. Four or five concrete emplacements, surrounded by barbed-wire entanglements, were north of the railroad line, about 1,000 meters east of the river.

25X1A Soldiers, wearing green caps, practiced rifle and machine gun firing near the emplacements.

Comment:

a. Regarding the installations observed in the area of the railroad bridge across the Bug River at Brest Litovsk, distinction must be made between:

(1) Fortifications of the Soviet border fortification line along the eastern bank of the Bug River,

(2) Installations on both river banks for the purpose of protecting and guarding the important railroad bridge.

b. (1) The core of the Soviet border fortification line is a system of infantry pillboxes and gun emplacements, probably mostly concrete, which are echeloned in depth up to 1,000 meters. They are protected by multiple-belt entanglements and barbed-wire entanglements. The emplacements observed near the bridge were presumably occupied by the bridge guard detachments (JVD troops with green caps).

(2) The installations which serve merely for guarding the bridge, as were observed near the bridge and, possibly, within the fortified system, have no defensive value. Such installations, as wooden or wire fences, watchtowers with machine guns, searchlights and sentries, are to prevent unauthorized persons from approaching the bridge or performing sabotage. On the western bank (Polish territory) the bridge is protected by some kind of a bridgehead which, extending to the southwest, is surrounded by a 2-meter board fence. No fortified installations are reported to be in the fenced-in area. This and the reported dimensions of the bridgehead indicate that this bridgehead, too, is not part of the border fortification and has no tactical importance, but is merely to protect the bridge.

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