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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Border Control in the Area West of Cheb and at Hamry

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT prior to late September 1951

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 30 October 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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[REDACTED] 25X1X

25X1X

1. From 20 to about 28 September 1951, uniformed labor units were observed ploughing and harrowing a border strip, about 500 meters long and 20 meters deep, in the border area west of Cheb (N 51/P 37). As far as it was seen, the strip laid waste followed the entire border line. It seemed to run along the eastern edge of the woods along the border. Watchtowers occupied by guards stood on the roads [REDACTED] in the border zone. * ILLEGIB During the same period, it was observed that the terrain near large road blocks was being cleared to permit unobstructed fire. For example, several trees were cut in the vicinity of the former Czech customs office on the road leading from Cheb to Schirnding, Bavaria. A sentry was on continual watch in the attic of the customs office.

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2. On 21 September, about ten Czech civilian workers, under the supervision of five border guards, were working with pick axes and spades in the border area southwest of Hamry (N 50/U 98). The purpose of the work could not be determined, but source believed it possible that excavations preparatory to laying mines were being dug.

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Comment. The establishment of a continual strip of waste land following the border was also mentioned in a report of August 1951.

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