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1. Brest Litovsk on the Warsaw-Moscow trunk line was the largest railroad junction and transloading point on the Polish-Soviet border. The many railroad stations in Brest Litovsk were provided with extensive trackage so that a comprehensive survey was difficult to obtain, particularly for PWs who had no access to railroad plans. (1) However, separate transloading points existing in the area included the West Railroad Station equipped with a coal loading ramp; the Central Railroad Station; the East Railroad Station provided with a special transloading ramp; the Loleski or South Railroad Station and the Lukhovets and Blakhatka railroad Stations.

a. The Brest Litovsk West Railroad station was a normal passenger freight station. The "coal loading ramp" on the south side extended from a point about 2.5 km east of the railroad bridge across the Bug River at the Polish-Soviet frontier to the Central Station of Brest Litovsk. (2) The coal ramp was used exclusively for the transloading of coal. The coal loading ramp available was about 10 meters high, 7.5 meters wide, and built of heavy logs. It was long enough for 25 two-axle standard-gauge railroad cars. The ramp had a slanting approach with one standard-gauge track. The interior of the ramp was provided with wooden walls lined with sheet metal so that two large coal bins were formed. When the railroad cars standing on the ramp were opened the coal dropped through spaces between the planking of the ramp into the coal bins. The coal remaining in the railroad cars or spilled onto the ramp was shovelled into the coal bins. The bins had a storage capacity of at least 60 standard-gauge carloads. Slide doors were mounted at the head walls of the ramp. Since these doors were at the lowest points of the ramp, the coal dropped out when the doors were opened onto German made conveyor belts which transported it over a distance of about 10 meters to the Soviet-gauge railroad cars. Parallel to each side of the ramp, at a

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distance of about 10 meters from it, was a Soviet-gauge track. (3) Up to the summer of 1949, coal handled there included hard coal, industrial coal, nut coal, coal dust, and briquettes. All this coal came from Upper Silesia. Work at the coal ramp was done in three shifts of eight hours each. Fifty carloads of from 15 to 25 tons were transloaded in one shift. The five German cranes available at the transloading point in 1948/1949 handled an additional two trains with a total of approximately 100 cars per day. On the average, transloading was done on 20 days of each month. From this it can be inferred that about 1.0,000 tons of coal were transloaded at this station per month. Forty men were assigned to each shift at the ramp. The transloading of 25 cars into the coal bins took about 2½ hours. Delays occurred when the bins were already full or when there were not enough Soviet-gauge railroad cars available. In 1948/1949, the station area was completely cordoned off by Soviet militia. (4)

- b. The Brest Litovsk Central Railroad Station on the Warsaw-Minsk-Moscow trunk line had a transloading ramp about 500 meters long, where only troop trains were transloaded.
- c. The East Railroad Station east of the Central Railroad Station was also on the Warsaw-Moscow trunk line. This station had a ramp 500 meters long, as well as a 1,000-meter transloading ramp, located about 1 km to the east, for troops. Most of the returning German PWs were transloaded there. They observed the transloading of tank and artillery units as well as of motor vehicles. The transloading of one troop transport with vehicles took about three hours. The standard-gauge track terminated at the ramp east of the East Railroad Station.
- d. Poleski (South) Railroad Station was directly southeast of the Central Railroad station on the Brest Litovsk-Kovel-Kiev main line. The trackage of the Central Railroad Station and that of the Poleski Railroad Station were contiguous. The latter station had 10 tracks and a ramp 600 meters long, with a standard-gauge track on one side, and a Soviet-gauge track on the other. (5) Formerly used for freight from Germany to the U.S.S.R., this railroad station was now exclusively used for the transloading of troops.
- e. The Pukhovets-Voyenni transloading point was about 2 km south of the Central Railroad Station. From this station two standard-gauge and one Soviet-gauge track led to the Pukhovets Railroad Station, where they branched out into four standard-gauge and four Soviet-gauge tracks. (6) At the southern edge of the area there was a stone loading ramp about 500 meters long between a standard-gauge and a Soviet-gauge track. Up to 18 June 1949 a Demag grab crane with a lifting capacity of 8 to 10 tons had been available at this ramp. In 1945/1946 this crane was on caterpillar tracks. However, it was found out that the loading ramp could not stand the weight of the crane and so the crane was made stationary. To the north a standard-gauge and a Soviet-gauge track were bridged by a gantry crane with a lifting capacity of 75 tons. This crane mounted on rails was able to move over the entire station area. In 1947 the crane which had been previously operated by hand was electrified. Uranium ore was transloaded for the first time in early May 1948. The trains were marked by the inscription "Uranium Ore" in German and Russian. The transloading of such a train lasted about 12 hours. Potash, graphite, boxes with undetermined loads, tank engines, trucks and sedans in addition to cargo and prefabricated houses were also transloaded. The transloading of scrap took 8 to 10 hours, of the prefabricated houses about four hours. If necessary work was done in three shifts.
- f. The Plakhatka Railroad Station was built by German PWs after World War II and was used exclusively for the transloading of captured and dismantled machinery. It was located between Fort 8 and the Brest Litovsk airfield, 2 km north of the Central Railroad Station and extended 6 to 7 km from north to south and 2 to 4 km from east to west. Both a standard-gauge and a Soviet-gauge track branched off from the Warsaw-Minsk trunk line to the Plakhatka [REDACTED] Railroad Station.

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When these tracks joined the area of the Trakhatka Station they branched out into 12 to 14 classification tracks [redacted]

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[redacted] information has been received on the location of the 100 to 120 wooden storage sheds, allegedly for the storage of the dismantled machinery. (7) Tanks, motor vehicles, guns, ammunition, steel structures for aircraft hangars, maritime cables, textiles of every description, uniform cloth, rails and ties, signal equipment, household goods, furniture, tinne pieces, radio sets, electric bulbs, surgical instruments, medicaments, sugar, leather, bicycles, etc., were allegedly transloaded. Dismantled machinery observed included the machine park of the Hlochhammer Iron Works in Silesia, of the Steel Works in Brandenburg; the Siemens and Halske Firm in Berlin, the Drawag Plant in Magdeburg in addition to the machinery of the Schwarzkopf, Pintsch, Lorsch and Landerer Firms. The transloading was done either by cranes or by hand. In the latter case planks were laid from the standard-gauge to the Soviet-gauge cars. Goods unloaded manually were first stored in the storage sheds before being forwarded to the U.S.S.R. Work was done in three shifts including Sundays and holidays. Each unloading detail of 250 men transloaded one or two trains daily. The entire railroad area was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence along which several watch towers were erected.

2. General:

a. Military administration.

Up to the summer of 1949, Base Command Headquarters 3606, [redacted] exercised military administrative functions for all railroad stations in Brest Litovsk. (8) The headquarters included: 1st Section: Crane section, headed by Lieutenant Colonel Vasilyev (fnu), [redacted] 270 men. 3d Section: Loading by hand, headed by Captain [redacted] (fnu), [redacted] with 263 men. 4th Section: Lulhovets Railroad Station. 5th Section: East Railroad Station. 6th Section: Poleski Railroad Station. The 2d Section could not be identified.

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b. Up to May 1949 stationary installations for the conversion of railroad cars from standard to Soviet-gauge and vice versa were not observed at any of the Brest Litovsk railroad stations. In the summer of 1943 it was observed that 20 new German express coaches were converted to Soviet gauge by Soviet workers in five days. The coaches were jacked up, put on trestles, and the standard-gauge axles were replaced by Soviet-gauge axles by means of cranes.

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[redacted] Comments.

- (1) For schematic diagram of all railroad station facilities in Brest Litovsk, see Annex 1.
- (2) For details of installations at the Brest Litovsk West Railroad Station, see Annex 2.
- (3) For sketch of the ramp, see Annex 3.
- (4) In the Polish-Soviet agreement on the volume of Soviet transit traffic dated 1 July 1950 it was established that 12 trains may be received and the same number of trains trans-shipped in Brest Litovsk in a 24-hour period.
- (5) For sketch of the Poleski Station see Annex 4.
- (6) For sketch of installation see Annex 5.
- (7) For sketch of possible layout of installation see Annex 6.
- (8) [redacted] has been observed in Brest Litovsk to date as trans-shipping point for military goods.

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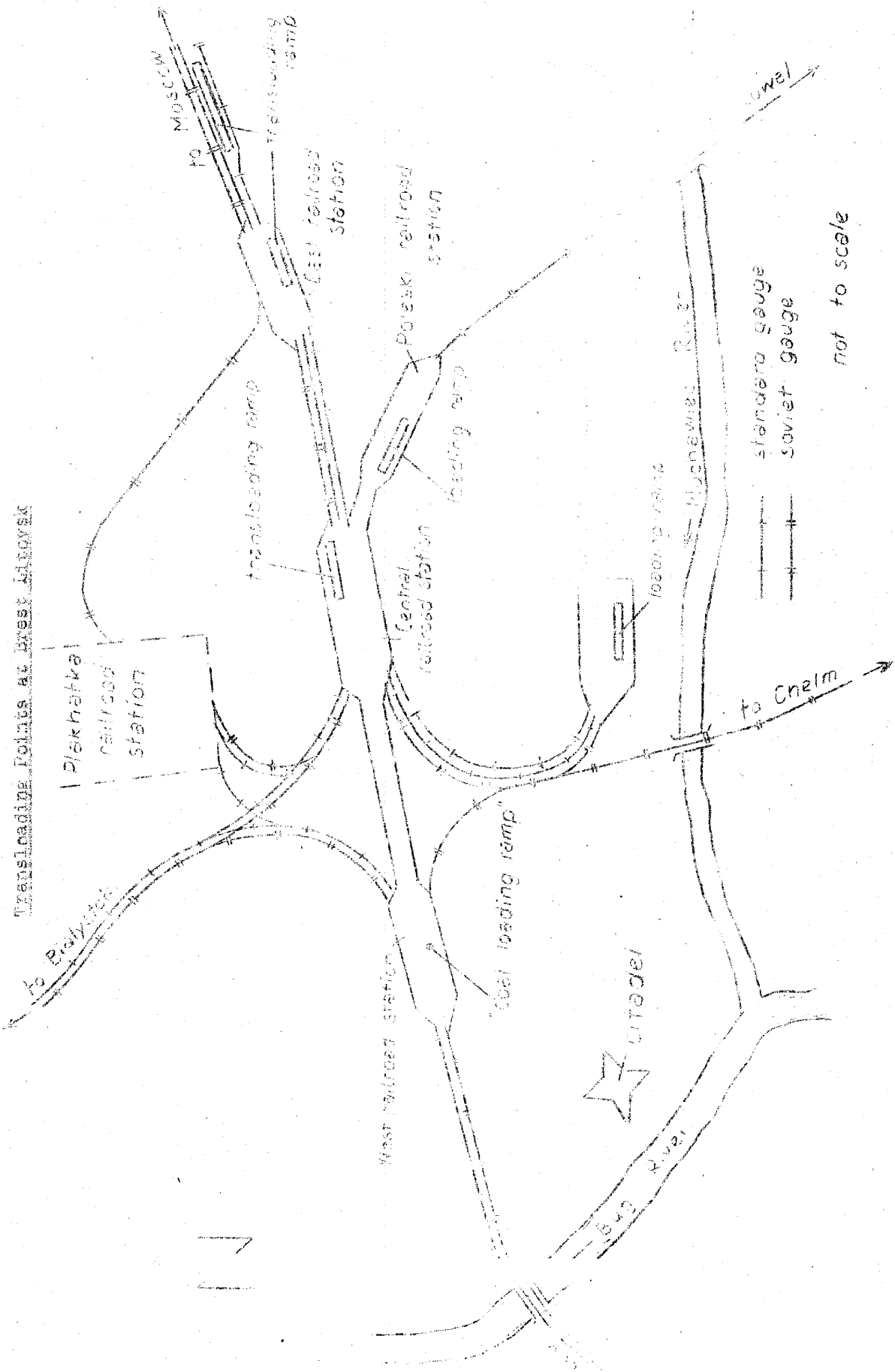
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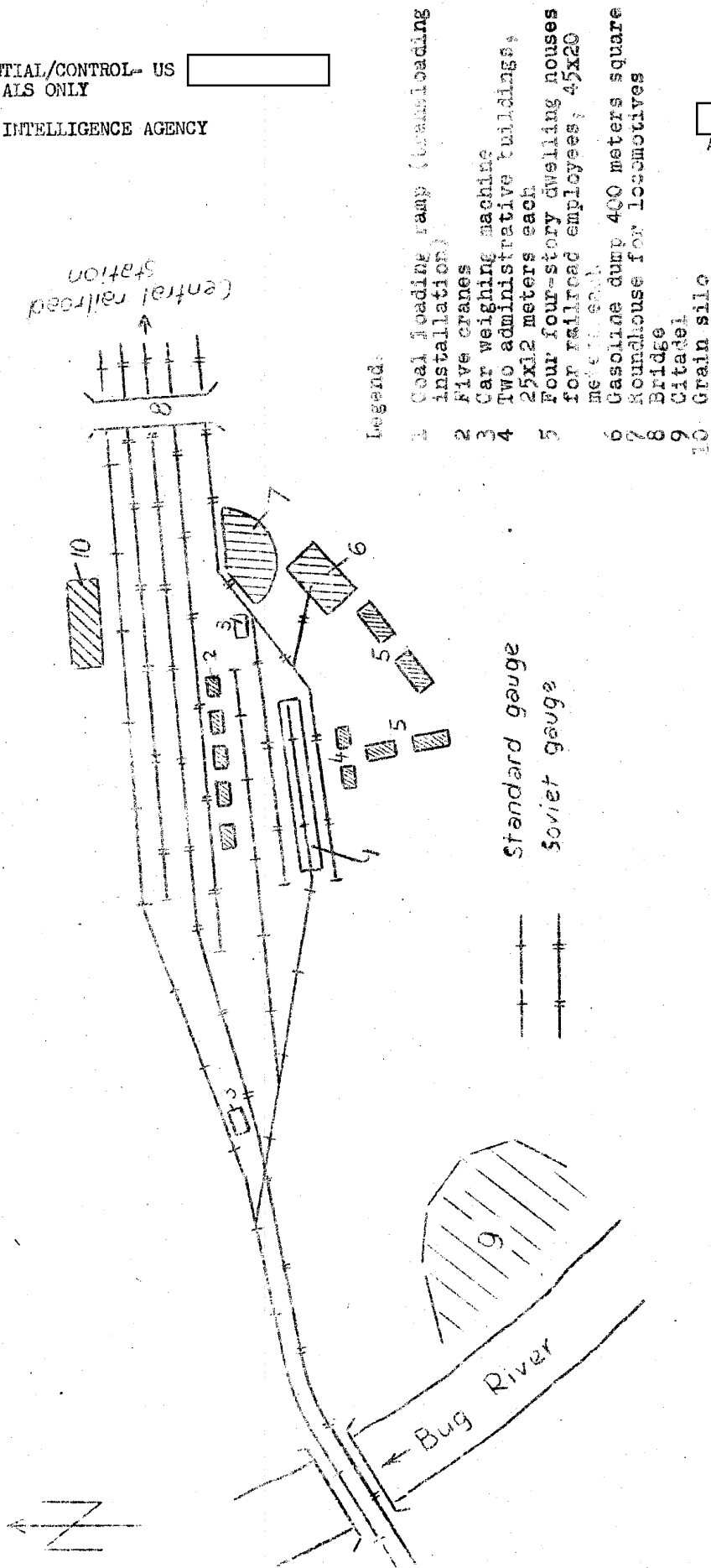
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Annex 2

Coal Loading Ramp of the Great Libovskaya Railroad Station

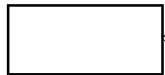
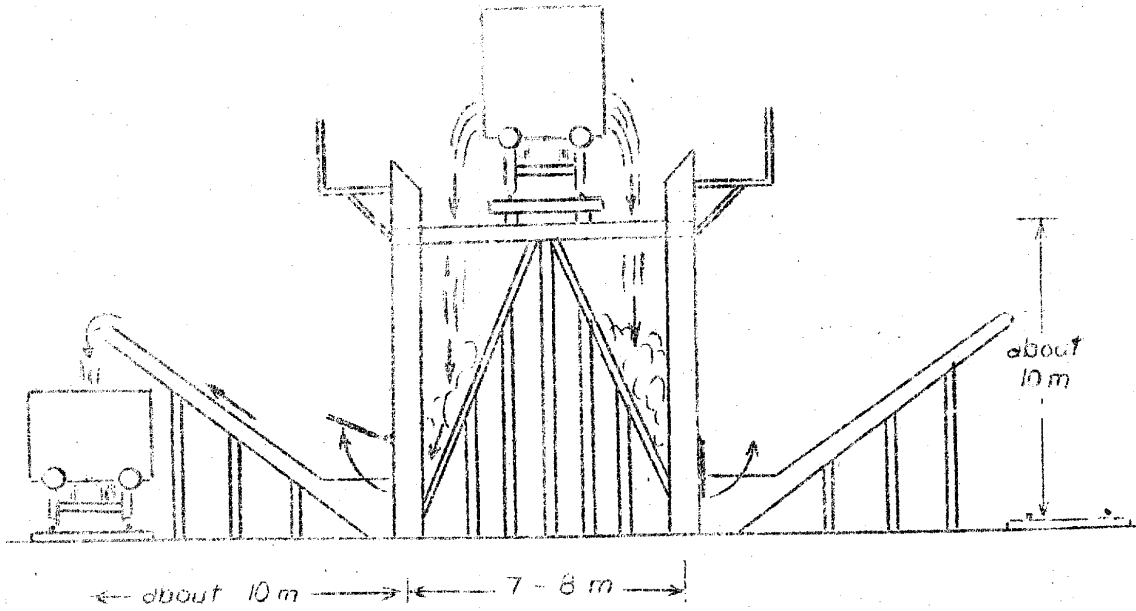


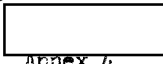
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Annex 3

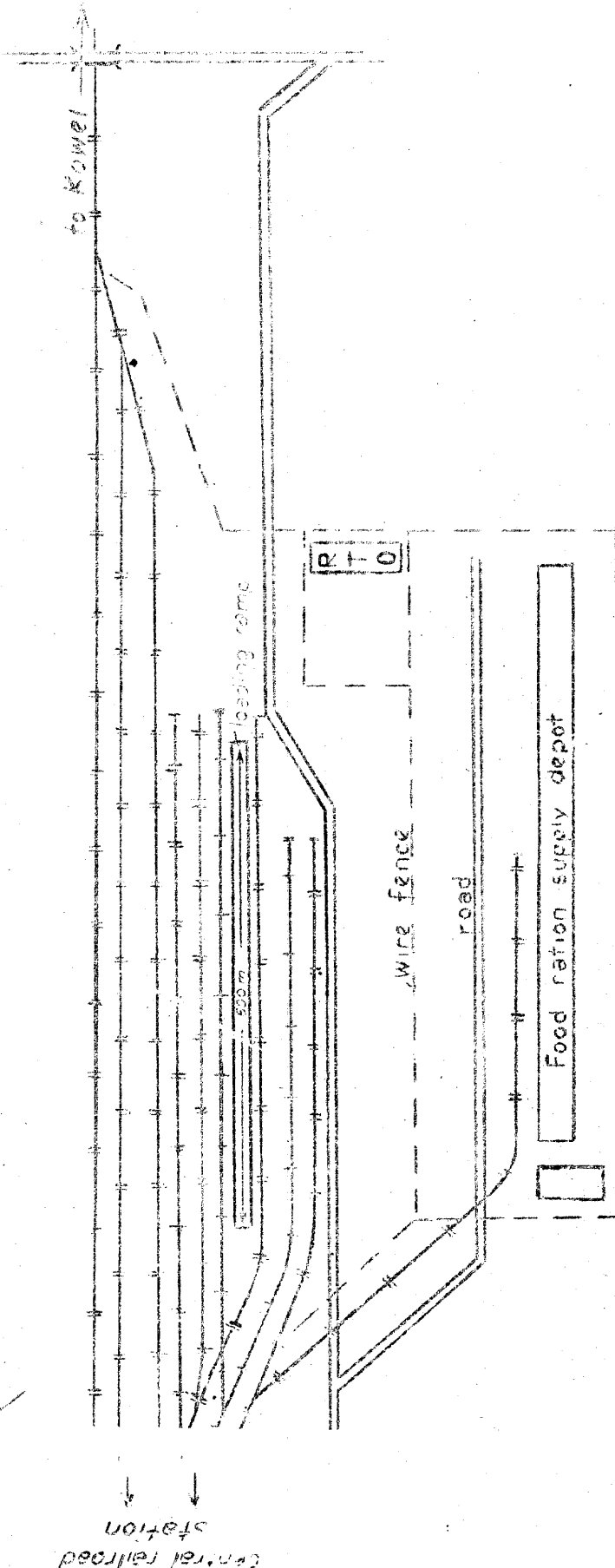
Cross Section of Coal Loading Ramp at the Dnestr-Litovsk West Railroad Station



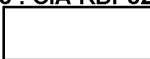


Annex 4

Releski-South Railroad Station



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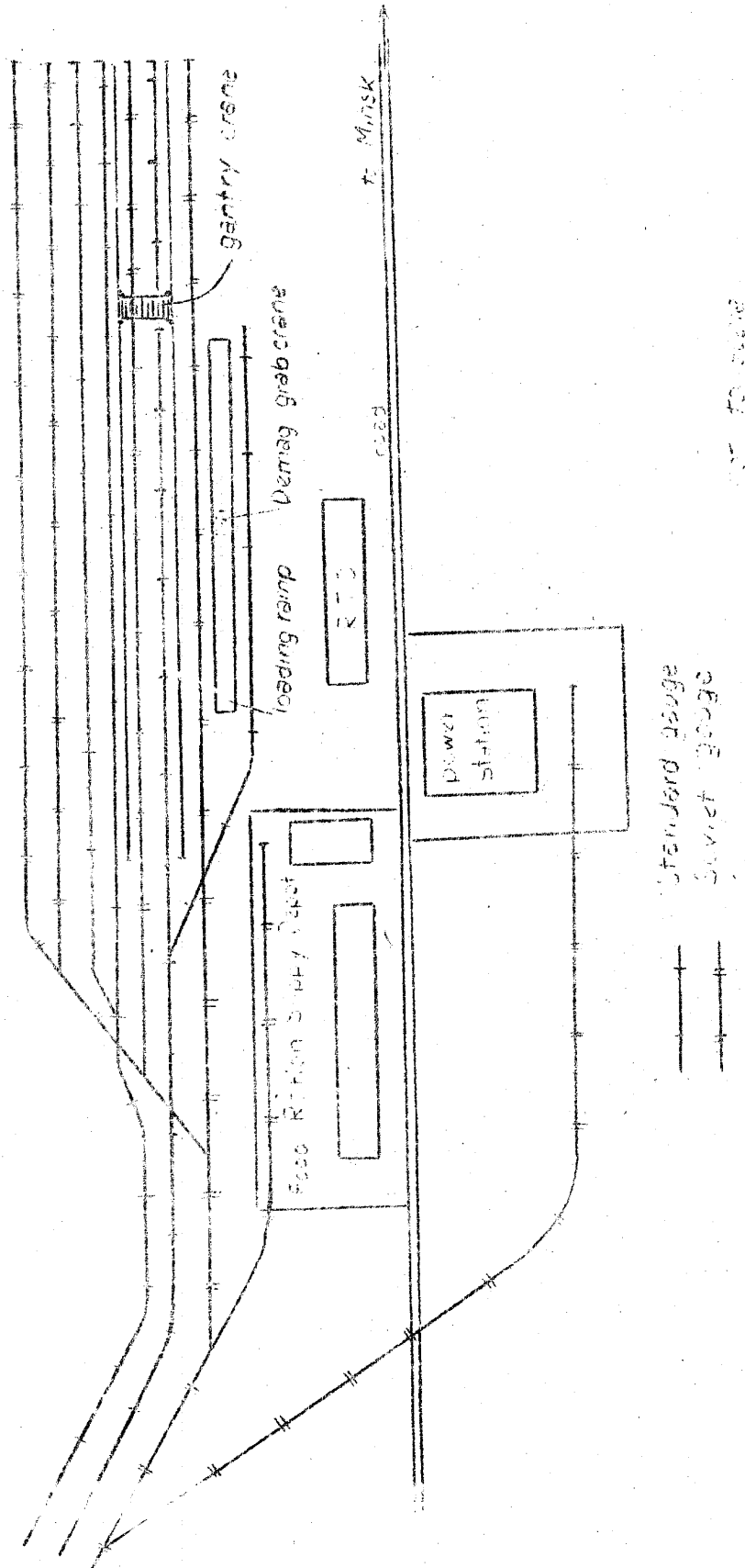
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Mukhomova Railroad Station

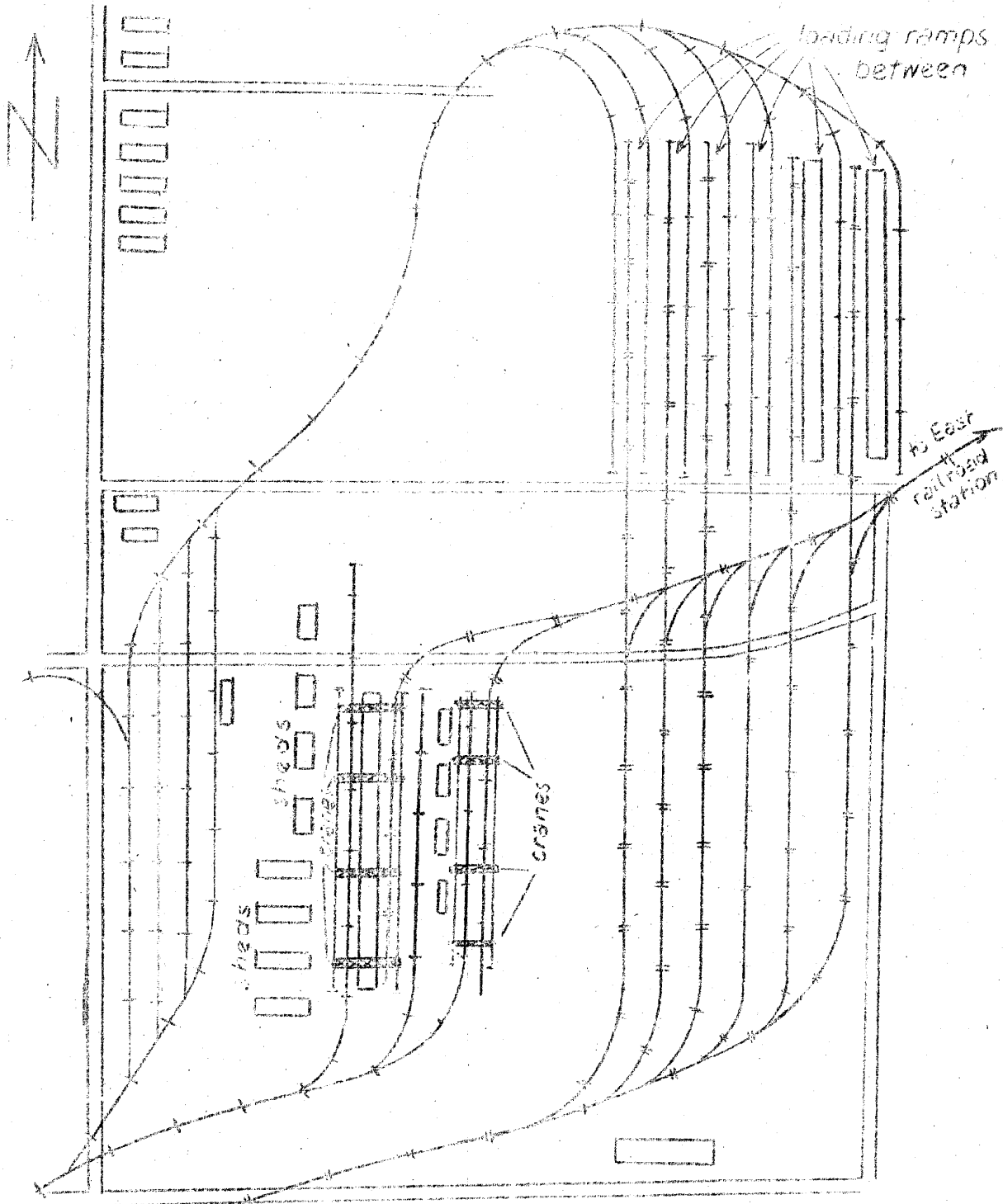


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Annex 6

Alma-ka Railroad Station



Central railroad station
to East railroad station

Standard gauge
Soviet gauge

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Annex 7

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Survey of Great Litovsk Railroad Station Facilities

Railroad Station	Trackage	Ramps	Cranes	Estimated Handled Capacity within 24 h	Actual Transloading Performance within 24 h
West Railroad Station with "coal ramp"	20 tracks standard and Soviet-gauge	coal ramp	5 cranes each with a capacity of 1 cubic	1 coal train	2 to 3 coal trains
Central Railroad Station	20 tracks standard and Soviet-gauge	1 ramp about 500 meters long	-	3 trains	1 train
East Railroad Station with east trans-loading ramp	14 to 16 tracks standard and Soviet-gauge	1 ramp, 500 meters long; 2 meters wide; 1 ramp, 1,000 meters long	2 x 5 ton cranes	9 trains	2 to 3 trains
Poloski Railroad Station	10 tracks standard and Soviet-gauge	1 ramp, 600 meters long	1 x 10 ton crane 1 x 15 ton crane 1 x 25 ton crane	4 trains	1 to 2 trains
Sukhovets Railroad Station	8 to 10 tracks standard and Soviet-gauge	1 ramp 500 meters long	1 x 6 ton crane 1 x 75 ton crane	4 trains	1 to 2 trains
Michmatka Railroad Station	13 standard-gauge tracks 13 Soviet-gauge tracks	undetermined	1 x 2 ton crane 1 x 5 ton crane 1 x 10 ton crane 1 x 15 ton crane 1 x 75 ton crane 1 x 110 ton crane 1 x 150 ton crane	2 1/2 trains	4 to 6 trains
Total:		3,100 running meters	14 cranes	19 trains	11 to 16 trains

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