

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY **Germany (Russian Zone)**

DATE DISTR. **9 January 1951**

SUBJECT **Ammunition Depots**

NO. OF PAGES **8**

PLACE ACQUIRED

25X1

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

3 (Encl. 1 Army Only)

DATE OF INFO.

25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U.S.C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

Altenhain Ammunition Depot.

1. In October 1950, it was learned that Soviet ammunition was being stored in the former German Army ammunition depot of Altenhain (N 52/E 41). German ammunition, allegedly artillery shells of various calibers, had been destroyed by blasting. The installations of the depot were in good condition. (1) The depot was guarded by Soviet artillerymen who [redacted] numbered 300 to 400. A major who was billeted in the depot was said to be the ranking officer. A colonel with his family was billeted in Trebsen (N 52/E 51). (2) Since 1 October only about 60 Germans, most of them women, have been employed in the depot. About 160 Germans were previously employed there. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

STATE	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI									

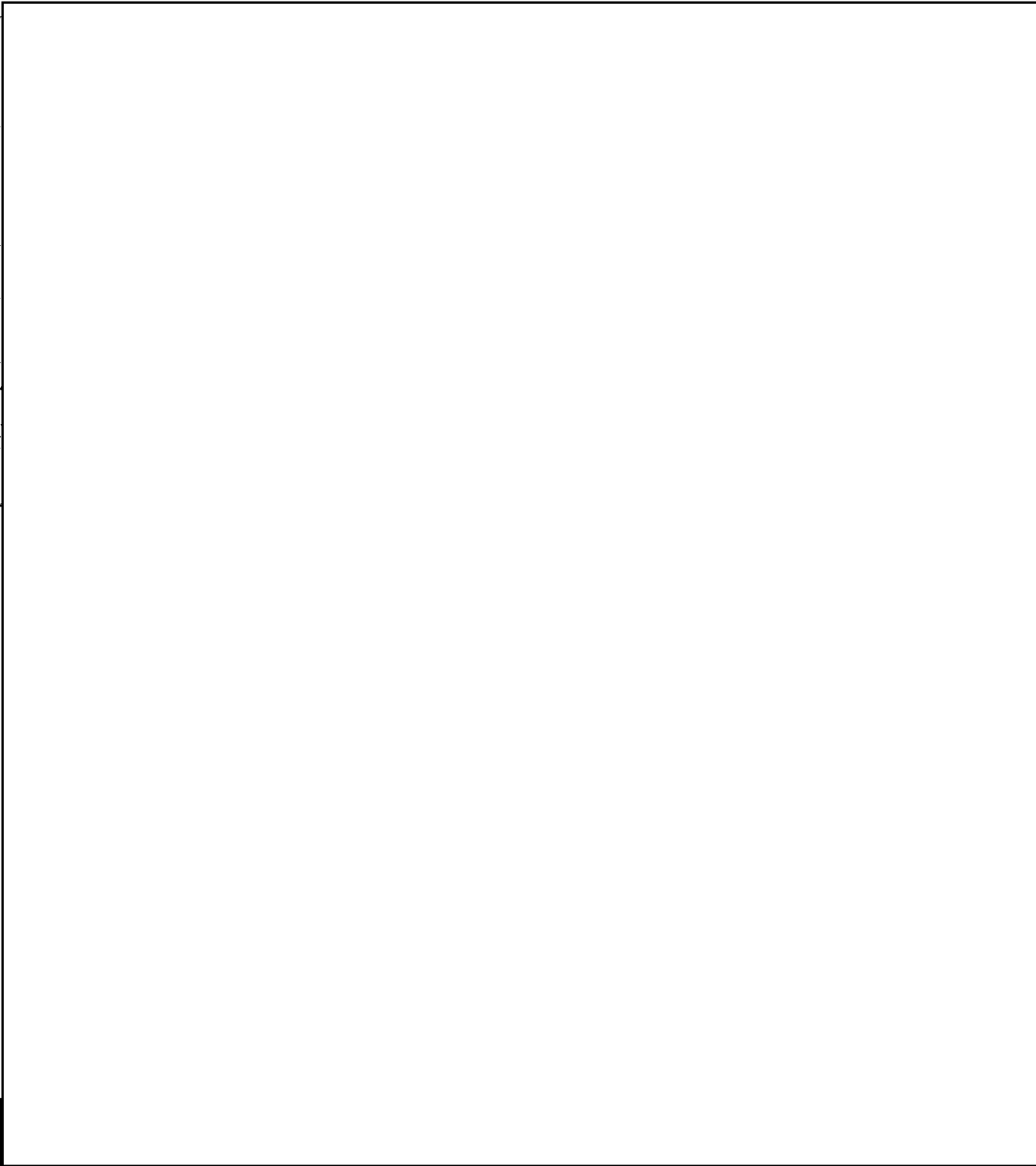
SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

[redacted] 25X1

-2-

25X1



25X1

3. Dingelstaedt Ammunition Depot.

[redacted] the manufacture of ammunition in the underground ammunition depot at Dingelstaedt (M 52/D 27) was resumed in September. The monthly output allegedly amounted to about 500,000 tank, antitank, and rocket projectiles. (6)

Finow Ammunition Depot.

4. On 18 September a convoy of ten empty trucks [redacted] and busses [redacted] occupied by soldiers, picked up ammunition at an ammunition depot which was located about 200 meters west of the Berlin-Stettin autobahn and south of the Wusterhausen-Finowfurth highway. The convoy subsequently left toward Eberswalde. (7)

SECRET

[redacted] 25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

COPY

25X1

SECRET

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-3-

25X1

5. On 2 and 3 October it was observed that ammunition boxes were stored in several buildings of the Waldeslust ammunition depot near Pinow (N 53/V 08). Soviet fatigue details arrived to load ammunition. The daily guard relief detail of one officer and 20 EM came from the direction of Eberswalde. (8)

Fuerstenwalde Ammunition Depot.

6. On 22 October a 120-axle train with about 100 AT guns and 10 boxcarsloads of ammunition arrived in Frankfurt/Oder, from the direction of Brest-Litovsk. The train was redispached to Fuerstenwalde (N 53/V 33), where the artillery pieces were unloaded and shipped to the Falkenhagen ordnance depot. The ammunition continued by rail to an underground ammunition depot on the Fuerstenwalde-Beeskow line and was unloaded there. The ammunition depot is said to be a large and heavily guarded installation. Railroad engineers of trains passing by were ordered to avoid any discharge of sparks. (9)

25X1

Kirchhain Ammunition Depot.

7. In September it was learned that Soviet ammunition was being stored in the Igant mine, about 7 km south of Kirchhain (N 52/A 05). The ammunition, which arrived by truck from an undetermined shipping point, allegedly consisted of light artillery, infantry, and rocket ammunition of various calibers. (10)

25X1

Mockrehna Ammunition Depot.

8. On 21 October it was learned that the former Mockrehna (N 52/E 53) ammunition depot was being heavily guarded by Volkspolizei personnel who [redacted] numbered about 300 men. It was said that stocks of German ammunition were stored in the depot. Ammunition was no longer being manufactured there. The only Soviet soldier seen on 21 October was an artillery lieutenant who went to the depot. (11)

25X1

25X1

Rathenow Ammunition Depot.

9. Between 20 September and 1 October a new lighting system consisting of powerful arc lamps and four searchlights were installed throughout the area of the storage depot at the Rathenow-Nord (N 53/Z 15) railroad station. The guard detail on duty in the depot area was commanded by Lieutenant Proshenkov (fnu), and was recently brought up to a strength of 40 men. Since 29 September all streets in the vicinity of the depot have been restricted to civilian traffic after dark. (12)

25X1

25X1 10.

[redacted] a new type of ammunition was being shipped to the depot for storage. They described the ammunition as "oil bombs" having a bomb-shaped design, 150 cm high and 30 cm in diameter, with four trapezoid fins at the upper end. The bombs were allegedly fired from a special launching frame. (13)

Schwarza Ammunition Depot.

11. On 19 October it was learned that the ammunition depot of the Saalfeld (M 51/J 53) military post was located in Schwarzaer Hoehle (Schwarza cavern) (M 51/J 53) on the railroad line to Arnstadt. A guard detail there, which consisted of 1 officer and 10 EM, was [redacted] from Saalfeld. No construction or shipments either going were observed. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

SECRET

25X1

25X1

Schwerin-Sternbuchholz Ammunition Depot.

12. During the nights from 12 to 16 October truck convoys were observed hauling ammunition to the Sternbuchholz (M 54/T 46) depot. No details on the origin, type, quantity, or caliber of the ammunition and no truck numbers could be secured. (15)

Toepchin Ammunition Depot.

13. Between 21 and 23 September it was learned that [redacted] (N 53/Z 91) ammunition depot, which is located northwest of Teupitz (N 53/V 00), contains about 20 subterranean and 10 surface storage bunkers, each with a capacity of 2 or 3 railroad carloads of ammunition. The surface bunkers were round, reinforced concrete structures, about 20 meters in diameter and about 3.5 meters high, topped by an arched concrete roof. They have double iron doors, large enough to allow a truck to pass through. The subterranean bunkers were constructed like the surface bunkers but were surrounded by sodded mounds of earth, with approaches through for the doors. (16)
14. At the depot, about 50 officers and 300 EM, who wore red-bordered black epaulets, were engaged in the maintenance of ammunition. They were assisted by 98 German civilians whose activities had been restricted to cleaning and other minor work about six weeks before. The military personnel were organized into two units, one commanded by Colonel Panin (fnu), including about 36 officers, and the other by Lieutenant Colonel Marenko (fnu), including 4 majors, 6 captains and 4 senior lieutenants, one of whom was named Babayov (fnu). There was only one political officer, a major, for both units. The two commanding officers left Toepchin some time ago, but were expected to return soon. Colonel Panin's unit furnished guard personnel for the main approach road from the north and Lieutenant Colonel Marenko's unit furnished personnel for the approach road from the southeast. All officers were billeted outside the depot area in houses along the Toepchin-Wuensdorf highway. With the exception of two officer wives, all officer dependents had returned to the U.S.S.R. two or three months ago.
15. A special guard detail of 20 to 25 men was stationed in the Sputenberge forester's house on the eastern shore of Toepchin Lake. The soldiers of the detail wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and yellow-bordered black epaulets. They were brought to and from this post by truck. The enlisted personnel stationed at the depot proper were accommodated in wooden barracks and were restricted to quarters.
16. No new ammunition was being manufactured or filled at the depot. The rust was being removed from stocks and incoming shipments of Soviet artillery ammunition. The ammunition was also being reconditioned. [redacted] ammunition, the rust was being removed from 50-kg [redacted] stored. The 122-mm rocket projectiles were [redacted] infantry ammunition stored at the depot was only oiled and sprayed with powdered soapstone. Some shipments of British ammunition, bearing the inscription "40-mm shell" on the boxes, were observed to arrive at the depot. The last shipment of this kind, about five boxcarloads, arrived about three weeks prior to 21-23 September. This ammunition was also reconditioned. The 28 to 30 surface and subterranean bunkers were allegedly filled at the time of observation, the shells stored there being without fuzes.
17. A Soviet laboratory was being established in a former inn and its annex buildings, about 250 meters east of the driveway to the ammunition depot, on the southern edge of the highway leading to Toepchin. It was

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1
25X1

said that work with highly explosive material was being conducted in the heavily guarded laboratory. (16) Trucks

by artillerymen and soldiers with yellow-bordered black epaulets, were identified at the depot. (17)

18. Outgoing shipments of ammunition amounted to 1,254 tons in 85 boxcars in January 1950; 510 tons in 34 boxcars in February; 5 tons in one boxcar in March; 950 tons in 53 boxcars in April; 340 tons in 24 boxcars in May; 568 tons in 45 boxcars in July; and 215 tons in 25 boxcars in August 1950. No ammunition left Toepchin in June 1950.

- 25X1 19. Rail shipments which were dispatched from the Toepchin depot between 3 September and 20 October included:

25X1

<u>Shipment</u>	<u>Destination and Date</u>
Two boxcars with Soviet soldiers who had escorted four shipments to Toepchin	Frankfurt/Oder 3 September
Twenty-six boxcars with 630 tons of ammunition; allegedly the only outgoing ammunition shipment in September	Kapen 20 September
Fourteen boxcars with ammunition;	Dannenwalde (N 54/U 61) 4 October 2:32 p.m.
Fifteen boxcars with ammunition;	Dannenwalde 4 October 2 p.m.
Ten boxcars with ammunition	Roederau (N 52/E 81) 11 October 1:20 p.m.
Ten boxcars with ammunition;	Dannenwalde 11 October 1:20 p.m.
Seven boxcars with ammunition;	Altengrabow (M 53/Z 00) 11 October 1:32 p.m.
Fifteen boxcars;	Roederau 17 October 6:35 p.m.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

SECRET

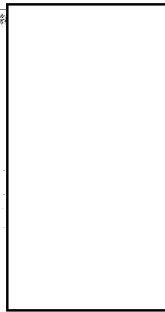
25X1

SECRET

25X1

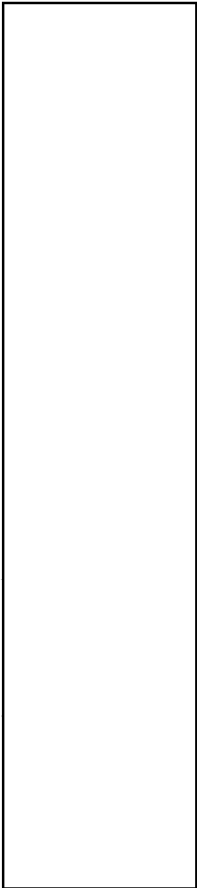
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1 Fourteen boxcars: Roederau
 25X1 [redacted] 17 October
 6:35 p.m.
 25X1 Four boxcars: Altengrabow
 20 October
 6:20 p.m.
 25X1 Six boxcars: Finow
 20 October
 6:23 p.m.



20. Incoming shipments of ammunition amounted to 480 tons in 30 boxcars in January 1950; 452 tons in 29 boxcars in February; 719 tons in 54 boxcars in March; 516 tons in 33 boxcars in April; 524 tons in 30 boxcars in May; 2,201 tons in 187 boxcars in June; 486 tons in 31 boxcars in July; and 1,304 tons in 67 boxcars in August 1950.
21. Rail shipments which arrived at the Toepchin depot between 3 September and 21 October included:

Shipment	Shipping Station and Date
25X1 Thirty-six boxcars:	Frankfurt/Oder
25X1 [redacted]	3 September
Six boxcars	Mockrehna
	8 September
Fourteen boxcars which were redispached to Neubuckow	Fuerstenwalde
	9 September
Three boxcars	Wulkow
	20 September
Nine boxcars	Hohenleipisch
	27 September
25X1 Eight boxcars:	Hohenleipisch
[redacted]	2 October
Two boxcars	Wulkow
	3 October
Three boxcars	Wulkow
	11 October
One boxcar	Wulkow
25X1	13 October
25X1 Two boxcars	Wulkow
25X1	21 October



Wilmersdorf Ammunition Depot.

22. On 28 October the Wilmersdorf (N 53/V 32) ammunition depot dispatched 452 tons of highly explosive ammunition to Kapen. [redacted]

25X1

SECRET



SECRET

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



25X1

Zinna Ammunition Depot.

23. On 25 and 26 October the former German Army ammunition depot of Zinna (N 52/E 64) near Torgau was guarded by Volkspolizei personnel. About 30 Soviet soldiers, wearing red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets and armed with submachine guns, were observed at field training in terrain between the ammunition depot and the Torgau-Mockrehna road. (19)
24. Truck arrived at the depot from Wittenberg. Truck arrived at the depot from the direction of Mockrehna and left toward Torgau. Sedan left the depot toward Zinna. (20)
25. Local residents said that German civilians were employed at the Zinna ammunition depot. Artillery ammunition was allegedly stored in the large earth bunkers, which can be recognized from outside the depot area. The railroad spur of the installation was apparently not used since it was completely covered with rust.

25X1

Comments.

- (1) The information confirms the Eighth Gds Army ammunition depot, which is sometimes referred to as Amelshain depot. It is a former German Army installation located in the wooded area east of Altenhain on the road leading to Trebsen. To date, incoming shipments of ammunition to come from the U.S.S.R., Wulkow and Juste
- (2) According to officers
- (3) Guard and ly intensified. The official bulletin of Kreis Grimma, issue of 24 October 1950, published a warning that entering a 200-meter zone from the depot fence was at the risk of life.
- (4) Five trucks and one sedan belonged to the 8th Gds Mecz Div of the First Gds Mecz Army; one truck to a headquarters unit of the First Gds Mecz Army; one truck to a headquarters unit of the Eighth Gds Army; and one truck to the MVD regiment in Leipzig.

25X1

25X1

- (5)
- (6) According to reliable information, the former German ammunition depot in the potash mine of Dingelstedt was abandoned by the Soviets in October 1948 to allow for the resumption of potash mining. The resumption of production by the Soviets is reported for the first time and requires confirmation Since the depot had been used only for the storage of German ammunition prior to 1948, it is doubted that ammunition should now be manufactured there. It is possible, however, that ammunition may again be stored there.
- (7) Possibly an ammunition supply depot on the grounds of the former autobahn rest camp, about 1,200 meters west of Finowfurt. The depot was observed as early as February 1950, but was not identified as an ammunition depot. It probably belongs to the Fourth Gds Mecz

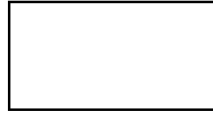
25X1

SECRET

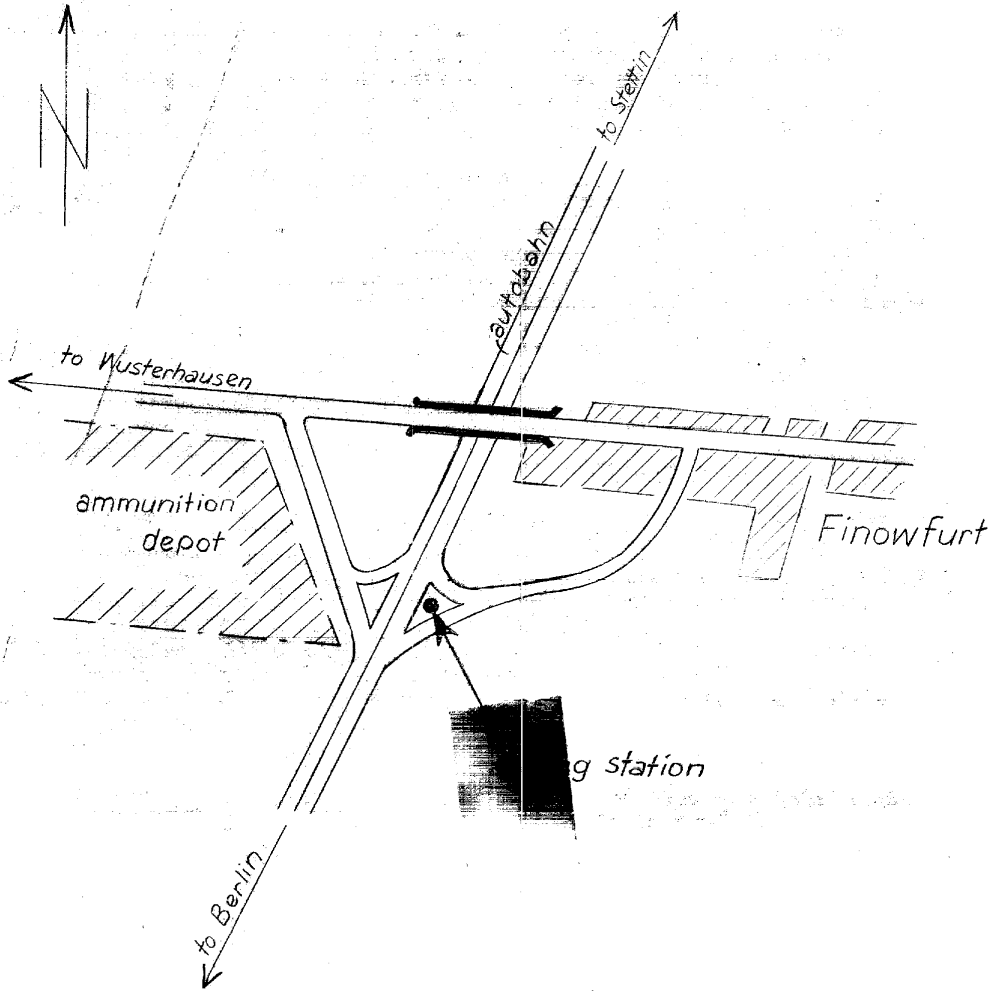
25X1

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



Ammunition Depot on the Berlin-Stettin Autobahn, West of Finowfurt



25X1

to scale

SECRET



SECRET

25X1

25X1 Legend to Annex 3

- 1 Main guardhouse
- 2 Guardhouse at a road barrier
- 3 Guardhouse at a road barrier
- 4 Checkpoint
- 5 Ammunition maintenance houses, green-painted solid brick structures, about 10x4x6 meters, with flat, reinforced concrete roofs. The houses had two iron doors, about 3 meters wide and 4 meters high, and two windows on each long side. Trucks entered the houses through the doors.
- 6 Ammunition packing houses, solid brick structures which can hardly be distinguished from the maintenance houses.
- 7 Printing shop for nomenclature labels
- 8 Underground gasoline storage
- 9 Gasoline storage shed
- 10 Tool storage shed
- 11 Administration building
- 12 Soldering shop with packing shed
- 13 Shed for melting pitch
- 14 Solid structures resembling the ammunition maintenance houses
- 15 About 15 wooden barracks quartering the Soviet depot personnel
- 16 PX building
- 17 Guard quarters
- 18 Laboratory in a former inn, heavily guarded and surrounded by a board fence about 3.5 meters high
- 19 Six two-story officers' houses, with about 50 apartments and an officers' mess
- 20 Twenty-eight surface and subterranean ammunition bunkers.

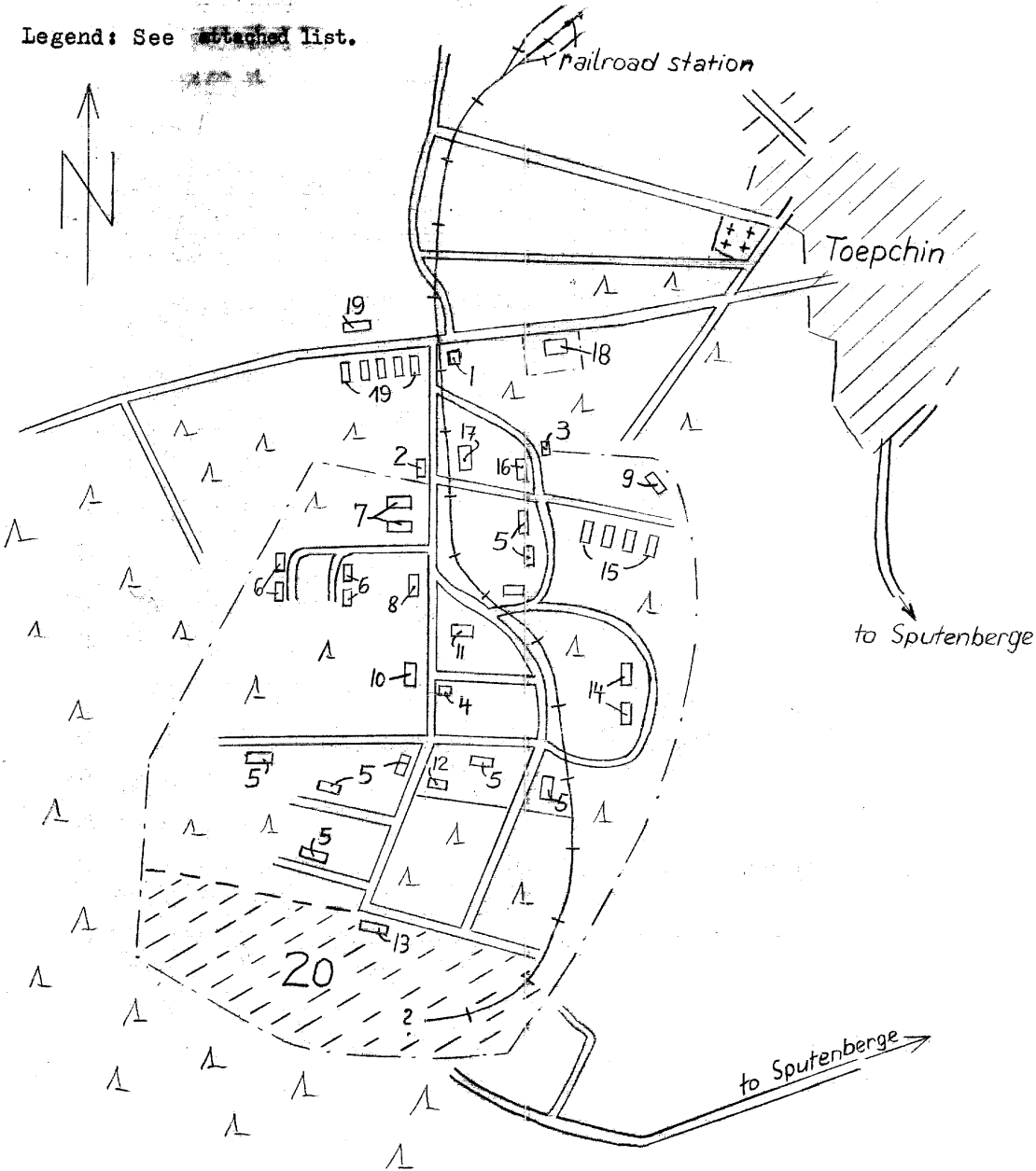
25X1

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Annex 3

Legend: See attached list.



25X1

SECRET

not to scale