

Kommunal- und regionalwissenschaftliche Arbeiten online (KrAo), Nr. 9

**Disappeared and Disappearing Settlements –  
Environmental and Historical Links, Consequences and Impacts  
in the Chomutov Region of the North-West Bohemia**

von

Vaclav Postolka

**Impressum:**

Herausgeber: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Peter Jurczek  
Anschrift: Technische Universität Chemnitz, Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeographie, 09107 Chemnitz  
E-Mail: peter.jurczek@phil.tu-chemnitz.de  
Erscheinungsort: Chemnitz 2004  
ISSN: 1619-8603

# **Disappeared and Disappearing Settlements – Environmental and Historical Links, Consequences and Impacts in the Chomutov Region of the North-West Bohemia**

Vaclav Postolka, Technická Univerzita v Liberci

## **Summary:**

One of the most affected parts of the Central Europe from environmental point of view is the Czech - Saxon borderland. One of reasons, consequences as well as results of extremely undulated development and changes within this area is also a big number disappeared and disappearing settlements on the Czech side after the World War II. Mostly due to extensive brown coal mining and accompanying economic activities, a lot of settlements ceased to exist there in a rather short period. Other settlements disappeared there as a direct consequence of the post-war population transfers and resettlements. Moreover, other settlements disappeared due to military interests and profound social-economic changes upon „borderlands“ in the new societal climate after the year 1945. The area of the district (cz. okres) of Chomutov and its surroundings in the North-West Bohemia has been affected in an extremely large scale by all the mentioned forms of „settlements razing“. Perhaps no other area and part of the Czech Republic - maybe not even in Europe - was so strongly affected and deteriorated by such an extent of settlement razing like there.

## **Zusammenfassung:**

*Aus der Perspektive der Umweltveränderungen zählt das tschechisch-sächsische Grenzgebiet zu den am meisten betroffenen Teilen in Mitteleuropa. Gründe, Folgen und gleichzeitig Ergebnisse dieser Entwicklung liegen u.a. in der hohen Anzahl der nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg vollzogenen und sich noch immer vollziehenden Umsiedlungen auf tschechischer Seite. Unter dem Einfluss weiträumigen Braunkohletagebaus und anderer umweltbeeinflussenden Aktivitäten verschwand in relativ kurzer Zeit eine große Anzahl von Siedlungen. Die weitere Entvölkerung war eine direkte Folge der Populationsmigration und der Neubesiedelung in der Nachkriegszeit. Militärische Interessen, tiefgreifende und auf das neue „Klima“ nach 1945 zurückzuführende sozioökonomische Veränderungen verursachten das Verschwinden weiterer Orte. Gerade der nordwest-böhmische Kreis (tsch. okres) Chomutov und seine Umgebung wurden durch alle o.g. Formen der „Liquidation von Siedlungen“ extrem betroffen. Es ist anzunehmen, dass dies für keine andere Region in der Tschechischen Republik, und höchstwahrscheinlich auch für keine andere in Europa, in einem so umfassenden Ausmaß zutrifft.*

## **1. Introduction**

One of the most affected parts of Central Europe from an environmental point of view is the Czech - Saxon borderland. One of the reasons, consequences as well as results of an extremely undulated development within this area is a large number of disappeared and disappearing settlements on the Czech side after World War II. Mostly due to extensive brown coal mining and accompanying economic activities, many settlements ceased to exist in a rather short period of time. Other settlements vanished as a direct consequence of the post-war population transfers and resettlements. Moreover, other settlements disappeared due to military needs and profound social-economic changes affecting the

„borderlands“ in the „new societal climate“ after the year 1945. The area of the district (Cz. okres) of Chomutov and its surroundings in the North-West Bohemia has been affected in a very large scale by all the mentioned forms of „settlement razing“. Perhaps no other part of the Czech Republic - maybe even in Europe - was so strongly affected and deteriorated by such an extent of settlement razing like this area.

## **2. The assessed area - geographic position and its characteristics**

The district of Chomutov (Ger. Komotau) and its surrounding area are the westernmost part of the newborn Ustecky kraj county (Ger. Bezirk) and the westernmost part of the North-Bohemian Brown Coal Basin (NBBCB, Cz. Severoceska hnedouhelna panev / SHP). In its present size and form the district was formed in the year 1960 as a part of the Severocesky kraj county which was there established as a new administrative unit. Its territory was composed of parts of the former (and smaller) districts of Chomutov (Komotau) and Zatec (Saaz), both entities of the former Ustecky kraj county, and by parts of the former districts of Kadan (Kaaßen), Podborany (Podersam) and Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad) which belonged to the former Karlovarsky kraj county (existing from 1949-1960). The largest part of its area was and is still formed by parts of the former districts of Chomutov (its easternmost part was included to the district of Most) and Kadan (its westernmost part was assigned to the district of Karlovy Vary; see references 12, 14).

Until 1960, very significant „miners“ settlements such as Ervenice (Seestadt), Drinov (Bartelsdorf), Holesice (Holtschitz), later included in the district of Most (Brüx), were situated within the former district of Chomutov. The western part of the former district of Kadan was converted into the largest military training area in Czechoslovakia in the fifties and in 1960 came to the district of Karlovy Vary as a „special military municipality“ named Hradiste.

In order to illustrate both scale and forms of the settlement razing in this case, we decided to add the present extent of the settlements disappearing from the closest surroundings of the district of Chomutov. These settlements were in the past closely tied and linked to the assessed area with regard to physical, social-economic and public-administration reasons. The territorial frame of the research area therefore covers adjacent parts of the neighbouring districts of Most and Karlovy Vary.

### **3. Approach and contents of assessment**

In order to assess and analyse the phenomenon of vanishing settlements as well as the transformation of their patterns, we need to firstly identify causes, periods and intensity of the process (e.g. number of population and houses in the affected and disappeared settlements). Moreover, we should take into account the settlements' geographic location in very different and changeable environments of the region and differentiate their position in a frame of physical and public administration units.

The area of the Chomutov district - which covers only 935 sq km (1.2 % of the total area of the Czech Republic) - is to be differentiated from a physical geography point of view into three very different parts / units: The Krusne hory Mts. (Erzgebirge, Ore Mts.), the Mostecka panev basin or Severoceska hnedouhelna panev basin (Nordböhmisches Braunkohlerevier, NBBCB) and the Doupovske hory Mts. (Duppauer Gebirge). From an administrative point of view, it is advisable to use the more detailed, although abandoned division into so-called „judicial districts“ (Cz. soudni okresy, Ger. Gerichtsbezirke), which existed until the year 1948. The assessed area was thus divided into seven or eight former „judicial districts“ in the time before the „stormy changes“: Chomutov (Komotau), Jirkov (Görkau), Hora Svatého Sebestiana (Sebastiansberg), Zatec (Saaz), Kadan (Kaaden), Doupov (Duppau), Prisecnice (Pressnitz), or Vejprty (Weipert) - see attached tables and map

### **4. Delimitation of the region and its changes**

In 1930, about 131,200 inhabitants were living on the territory of the former „political districts“ (which were composed of one or more „judicial districts“) Chomutov (Ch., Jirkov and Hora Sv.Sebestina) and Kadan (K. and Doupov). Only about 10 % (13,700 persons) of them had the Czech or Czechoslovak nationality. In the adjacent part of the Krusne hory Mts. - included into the „political districts“ of Prisecnice (Pressnitz) and Jachymov (Joachimsthal) - the share of the Czech (Czechoslovak) population was even lower. The lowest number and share of Czechs / Czechoslovaks lived in the Doupovske hory Mts. The prevailing part of the population in all municipalities was formed by Germans or German-speaking people. The only municipalities inhabited mostly by the Czechs / Czechoslovaks lied nearby the towns of Most and Louny (Laun).

During World War II the whole area was included in the Third Reich in the frame of the new formed Sudetenland County (Sudetengau). The district of Komotau (we have to use German names regarding that time) was included into the so-called „government

district“ (Ger. Regierungsbezirk) of Aussig (Cz. Usti nad Labem), while the district of Kaaden was part of the „government district“ of Eger (Cz. Cheb). Only two towns of all 14 present district capitals in the North-West Bohemia or the present Karlovarsky, Ustecky and Liberecky kraj counties were not a part of the German Reich - Louny and Semily.

Based on the President Decree Nr 121 from 27th October 1945, these „imputed administration units“ were removed and the previous „political and judicial districts“ were restored. Thus, the district of Vejprty was established instead of the former district of Prisecnice. Based on the Act Nr 280 from 21st December 1948 approving „county establishment and delimitation“, the district of Vejprty was again removed and its area was divided between the districts of Kadan and Jachymov within the new Karlovarsky kraj county.

The large but sparsely populated area of the Doupovske hory Mts. - in the frame of the district of Kadan and at that time included in the Karlovarsky kraj county - was declared as an „military training area (MTA, Cz. Vojensky vycvikovy prostor, abbr. VVP) in 1953. This area - in official language named VVP Hradiste, unofficially known as Doupov after the name of the former but later destroyed town within the training range - is still the largest and still inaccessible large scale military area in the country. It covers about 331 sq km (from 1960 onwards within frame of the district of Karlovy Vary however). In 1949, the Chomutov district became part of the Ustecky kraj county along with the neighbouring districts of Zatec, Most and Litvinov, and the neighbouring district of Kadan from the Karlovarsky kraj county.

The last public administration change took place in 2003. The districts (Cz. okresy) still exist but public administration was shifted from the „district level“ towards a lower level called „municipalities with extended jurisdiction (Cz. „obce s rozsirenou pusobnosti“ or „obce III. stupne“). In the assessed area two „municipalities – III degree“ exist: Chomutov and Kadan play now these roles instead of the former „district office“ (Cz. okresni urad) in Chomutov (Postolka 2002).

## **5. Disappeared settlements - overview and their characteristics**

In the Chomutov district - present size 935 sq km - we could identify 176 settlements (Cz. "sidla") in 1950. In the time between 1950 and 1993 there was a loss of 68 settlements, which means that almost 40 % of their post-war number have vanished in that period. One half of this loss was mostly due to brown-coal-mining activities (34 villages and several small towns). Moreover, we find also 27 (40 %) disappeared settlements in the Krusne hory Mts. and finally seven (10 %) in the Doupovske hory Mts. outside the established „military training area“.

If we extend the area as mentioned to the adjacent parts of the Doupovske hory Mts. (district of Karlovy Vary) and of the Brown Coal Basin (district of Most), the number raises to 173 disappeared settlements (Postolka 1992). Moreover we could also take into account the 34 settlements (Cz. official term "casti obce") in the district of Chomutov that have less than ten permanent inhabitants (Census 2001). The existence of these settlements is eventually threatened by the leaving of the „last residents“ in the near future.

We could conclude that by examining the areas around the towns of Chomutov and Kadan or between Karlovy Vary and Most (a distance of only 75 km) more than 200 settlements have already disappeared or could disappear (since identified as seriously threatened by disappearing of their „residential“ function) in a relatively short time. Nowhere else in the Czech Republic or other countries, there had been a similar loss of settlements in such a small-scale area followed by extraordinary changes of rural-urban patterns and structures in Northern Bohemia. In the Lusatia Brown Coal Region in Germany (Ger. Lausitzer Braunkohlerevier), for example, there had been a loss of 123 settlements, with more than 25,000 inhabitants affected, due to mining, but in a significantly larger area (Foerster 1995, pp.18-19).

In the attached tables all disappeared settlements are listed - for historical reasons the German names are added - including the adjacent settlements from the districts of Karlovy Vary and Most. They are divided into five categories according to reasons of their vanishing (see tables 1-5). There is also included convenient data on the number of population (censuses of 1930 and 1950) and the number of houses in the year 1930. Moreover, there is also given the period of their disappearing (mostly according to official sources), the names of the former „judicial districts“ as well as the present public authority / municipalities, under which we can find more information (tables 1-5). Table 6 is a comprehensive overview and summary of disappeared settlements

according to five different reasons and to their geographic position (administratively and physically) - with summaries of population and houses afflicted by the post-war development. Table 7 shows twelve of the largest „disappeared settlements“ of the region depending on their number of population in the pre-war period (census of 1930).

## **6. Disappeared settlements according to reasons**

Most settlements – in total 40 settlements (see table 5) - disappeared in the assessed area due to the „military training area“ (MTA) called Hradiste (often also Doupov). During a very short period of time (1953 to 1954), over 2,400 persons had to leave the area. Before World War II, however, still over 8,500 inhabitants - 98 % of them were Germans - had lived there. So there had been already a significant structural change between 1945 and 1953. The largest settlement and former centre of the „judicial district“ was the town of Doupov (Duppau). All the listed settlements were totally razed / destroyed step by step during long-term military trainings. Moreover, further 25 unlisted settlements ceased to exist within this MTA in the adjacent area (Postolka 1993).

Most of the population was forced to leave their settlements due to „brown coal mining activities“. From a total of 26 settlements (see table 1), about 12,000 persons had been resettled to other places. In 1930, there had lived there about 20,000 persons. Among the largest ceased settlements are Ervenice (Seestadt, a town with more than 3,000 inhabitants in the 1950s and about 5,000 in the 1930s), Prunerov, Kunderatice, Drinov and Nove Sedlo nad Bilinou (each of them with more than 1,000 inhabitants before resettling).

The first ceased settlement was Ervenice in the 1950s. The town-quarter called Nove (New) Ervenice was built-up in the near town of Jirkov, starting the period of involuntary population transfers from ceased settlements and countryside, causing a rapid change of settlement structure and pattern within the area. More than 2,500 houses in these settlements were demolished and their inhabitants resettled mostly to the quarters of „slab block of flats“ (Cz. panelova vystavba, Ger. Plattenbau), so typical for the adjacent and rapidly growing towns of Jirkov, Chomutov, Kadan, Klasterec nad Ohri, or Most and Litvinov. The landscape and the settlement structures between the towns of Kadan and Most (a short distance of about 40 km) were totally destroyed in an extremely short period of time.

The most intense „removal“ - due to extensive open-cast mining - was going on in the seventies and the eighties. The last settlements that vanished were Ahnikov and Zasada (1985) and Podhuri (1990).

Due to „water supply buildings and policies“ and the construction of dams and reservoirs a total of 12 settlements had been abandoned (see table 2). More than 1,300 houses - inhabited by more than 7,000 persons in the year 1930 - were demolished, and about 2,000 people had to be resettled. Here, the largest place affected was the former „judicial district“ centre of Prisečnice (Pressnitz). The water reservoir named as well Prisečnice, lying in the Krusne hory Mts. (725 m above sea level - 340 ha), brought the disappearing of three settlements in sum. Moreover, three other water dams were built up in this period - Krimov nearby Chomutov (potable water), Kyjice nearby Jirkov (on the Bilina River - overflood prevention and pit-mines protection), and the largest one named Nechranice nearby Kadan (on the Ohre / Eger River - 1.340 ha - for industrial, cooling and irrigation water supply). The latter caused the disappearing of six settlements.

Due to „waste dumps buildings and policies“ in compliance with requests of the large power plants production - the largest coal burning power plants in the country named Tusimice and Prunerov near Kadan were built up in this area after 1960 - five settlements with more than 1,000 inhabitants were destroyed (see table 3). The largest one - Vernerov - was even demolished „in advance“ which later proofed to be an unnecessary action.

Other 24 settlements (see table 4) ceased to exist due to „spontaneous outsettlement“ - a consequence of the post-war transfers of their German population as well as weak / weakening interest or power in favour of their resettling from the Czech side. Affected were mostly settlements lying in the Krusne hory Mts. and Doupovske hory Mts., which were for various reasons much less attractive for newcomers and their resettlement. While in 1930 there have been living more than 3,500 inhabitants (on average 150 people per settlement), the number of their population in 1950 decreased to less than 600 persons, thus being less than 20 % of the pre-war period. The largest ones were Volyne (Wohlau) nearby Vysluni (Sonnenberg) and Venkov (Wenkau) nearby Medenec (Kupferberg) in the Krusne hory Mts., both with more than 300 inhabitants before the post-war changes.



## 7. Conclusion

In the territory, 107 settlements has been identified (see table 1-6), which disappeared in the period 1950 to 1990, with more than 6,000 houses in the year 1930, in which about 41,000 inhabitants were living - more than 90 % of them established by Germans. After the post-war population transfers, these settlements were re-populated till the year 1950 by almost 19,000 new „settlers“ from Czechoslovakia - Czechs, Slovaks and others - thus only 45 % of the pre-war period number of population.

In addition to the enormous loss of the total number of settlements - as already described - there was an increasing internal urbanisation in favour of the towns in the „coal basin“. The extensive building of „new flats“ and well paid jobs in the growing „mining and heavy industry“ in the „coal basin“ - one of preferences and pillars of the previous political system – led to rapidly growing towns (with an inflow of young population) but also to rapidly depopulated and neglected surroundings. In both cases, the consequence was an imbalance of the urban and rural structure of the region.

Disappeared settlements became, however, a subject of more intensive concern and publicity on the district / regional level in compliance with the crucial political change after the year 1989. The Museum in the town of Chomutov - formerly named „District“ and nowadays „Regional“ - started to publish volumes covering step by step parts of the area affected (see references 1-7,13,14,19). The local newspapers „Nastup“ started to issue information on the municipality / settlement background, which is available also on webpages.

Since the first half of the nineties, annual meetings for the former population of the disappeared settlements are held in the town of Kadan (for the western part of the district and people from the Doupovske hory Mts.) and in the town of Jirkov - in the castle of Cerveny Hradek (Rothenhaus, for the eastern part of the district). In addition to these new activities, The Club of the Doupovske hory Mts. Friends (Klub pratel Doupovskych hor, abbr. KPDH) was founded, which for example launched „nature and environmental research“ in this „closed“ area in favour of establishing a large-scale landscape protection area (Cz. Chranena krajinna oblast – CHKO Stredni Pohri).

Another example could be the foundation called Disappeared municipalities and towns of the Chomutov region (cz. Zanikle obce a mesta Chomutovskeho regionu, abbr. ZOMCHR), which initiated the idea to set up a Memorial and a Museum of disappeared settlements of the region in the municipality of Perstejn nearby the town of Klasterec

nad Ohri. They have already issued a joint Czech-German book presenting disappeared settlements of the region (Binterova 2000).

The disappearing of so many settlements in such a short time in such a small area, tied to significant, mostly involuntary population transfers, caused serious direct and indirect detriments in its natural, economic, cultural and social environment. The Chomutov region belongs therefore - due to the indeed enormous pressure on landscape and settlements, which was launched and enforced by the „post-war population transfers“ - to the most afflicted parts of the so called Black Triangle area in Central Europe.

We are able and more than before also capable to remove or reduce the air, water, soil, noise etc. contamination and clean-up / improve the physical environment, but we are unfortunately not able and capable to bring back former cultural, social and natural environment physically tied with forever lost landscapes and settlements. Environmental quality in a broader sense depends as known very often also on „human behaviour“ in „its landscape and settlement space“. This „behaviour“ is strongly linked with the level of our „embeddedness“ in the landscape and in our living place. One of the most crucial problems of the region is therefore to enhance and restore lost „embeddedness“ of local inhabitants to the region bearing a so disastrous heritage and heavy burden of lost and totally razed landscapes and settlements (Böse at al. 1989, Hilf 1996, Postolka 1992, 1993, 2002, Binterova 2000 and Miksicek 2003).

## References

- (1) Binterova, Z. (1995): Zanikle obce Chomutovska I. : V povodi ricky Hutne. Okresni muzeum Chomutov, 54 s. + map
- (2) Binterova, Z. (1995): Zanikle obce Chomutovska II. : V povodi Luzickeho a Prunerovskeho potoka. Okresni muzeum Chomutov, 49 s. + map
- (3) Binterova, Z. (1995): Zanikle obce Chomutovska III. : Pod vodami Nechranicke prehrady. Okresni muzeum Chomutov, 35 s. + map
- (4) Binterova, Z. (1995): Zanikle obce Chomutovska IV. : V byvalem soudnim okrese Jirkov. Okresni muzeum Chomutov, 59 s. + map
- (5) Binterova, Z. (1996): Zanikle obce Chomutovska V. : Prisecnicko. Okresni muzeum v Chomutove, 59 s. + map
- (6) Binterova, Z. (1997): Zanikle obce Chomutovska VII. V okoli Hory Sv. Sebestiana, Krimova, Chomutova a na Kadansku. Okresni muzeum v Chomutově, 56 s. + maps
- (7) Binterova, Z. (1998): Zanikle obce Doupovska. Okresni muzeum Chomutov, 94 s.
- (8) Binterova, Z. (2000): Historicti svedkové doby v Euroregionu Krušnohori (Historische Zeitzeugen der Euroregion Erzgebirge). Zanikle obce a mesta chomutovského regionu (ZOMCHR) Perstejn, 452 s.
- (9) Böse , O. a Eibicht, J. eds. (1989): Die Sudetendeutschen - eine Volksgruppe im Herzen Europas 1848 - 1988. Sudetendeutscher Rat München, 174 s.

- (10) Foerster, F. (1995): Verschundene Doerfer. Die Ortsabbrueche des Lausitzer Braunkohlreviers bis 1993. Schriften des Sorb.Inst. 8, Domowina V. Bautzen, 316 s.
- (11) Hilf, R. (1996): Nemci a Cesi - Sousedstvi ve strední Evrope, jeho vyznam a promeny (Symbioza - katastrofa - nove cesty). Prago Media News, 219 s. + maps.
- (12) Chomutovsko slovem a obrazem. Okresni urad v Chomutove 1996, 109 s.
- (13) Laurencikova, M. a Gaza, J. (2001): Zanikle kostely na Chomutovsku po roce 1945. Okresni muzeum v Chomutove, 46 s. + map.
- (14) Lorber, J. (1994): Zemepisna vlastní jmena Chomutovska a Kadanska I. Mistopis. Okresni knihovna a muzeum v Chomutove, 208 s. + map
- (15) Miksicek, P. et al. (2003): Zmizele Sudety (Das verschwundene Sudetenland). Český les, 180 s. (incl. maps)
- (16) Postolka, V. (1992): Limity ekologicky unosne zateze uzemi a obnova zivotniho prostredi v Severoceske hnedouhelne panvi z hlediska obytné a stabilizacni funkce sidel a osidleni. Vystavba a architektura 38, 4, 25 - 29. VUVA Praha.
- (17) Postolka, V. (1993): Obyvatelstvo a osidleni Doupovskych hor - minulost, pritomnost a budoucnost. Sbornik CGS, 98, 2, 87 - 101. Academia Praha.
- (18) Postolka, V. (2002) : Vyvoj obyvatelstva a osidleni severozapadnich Cech. Geografie - Sbornik CGS, 107,3, 277 - 295. CGS Praha.
- (19) Vachata, Z. (1996): Zanikle obce Chomutovska VI. V okoli Klasterce nad Ohri. Okresni muzeum v Chomutove, 40 s. + map

#### **List of tables:**

- Table 1 Settlements disappeared due to coal mining
- Table 2 Settlements disappeared due to water supply buildings and policies
- Table 3 Settlements disappeared due to waste dumps of power plants
- Table 4 Settlements disappeared due to the post-war resettlement
- Table 5 Settlements disappeared due to military interests
- Table 6 Disappeared settlements - reasons, position, population and houses
- Table 7 Largest settlements ceased to exist in the Chomutov region

#### **Attached map:**

Chomutovsko a Kadansko : spravni vyvoj od r.1847 a zanikla sidla do r.1992  
(Chomutov and Kadan regions : public administration since 1847 and disappeared settlements until 1992 - with Czech description)

**Table 1 Settlements disappeared due to coal mining**

Ord	Czech name	German n.	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1950	Hous. 1930	Per.	Mun.	J.D.
1	Ahnikov	Hagensdorf	500	329	80	1985	Malkov	Cv
2	Branciky	Prenzig	103	50	19	1981	Brezno	Cv
3	Brany	Prahn	328	160	57	1981	Brezno	Cv
4	Bystrice	Wistritz	457	233	60	1980	Kadan	Kn
5	Cachovice	Tschachwitz	307	135	57	1967	Brezno	Kn
6	Drinov	Bartelsdorf	1811	1203	n	1976	<i>H.Jiretin</i>	Jv
7	Ervenice	Seestadtl	5121	3372	n	1950+	<i>Most</i>	Jv
8	Holesice	Holtschitz	1104	780	n	1980	<i>Most</i>	Jv
9	Kralupy	Kralupp	1281	832	199	1976	Malkov	Cv
10	Krbice	Korbitz	338	247	61	1983	Malkov	Cv
11	Kundratice	Kunnersdorf	1760	1358	249	1974	Vys.Pec	Jv
12	Libous	Liebisch	164	79	30	1979	Brezno	Cv
13	Luzice	Luschitz	104	72	11	1972	Kadan	Kn
14	Michanice	Michanitz	249	42	41	1955	Chomutov	Cv
15	Milzany	Milsau	350	140	50	1970	Kadan	Kn
16	Nasi	Naschau	217	137	32	1981	Brezno	Cv
17	Nove Sedlo n.B.	Neudorf a.B.	1674	1130	201	1975	Vrskman	Jv
18	Podhuri	Schimberg	357	185	60	1990	Vys.Pec	Jv
19	Pohlody	Pahlet	177	83	29	1979	Vrskman	Jv
20	Prahly	Proehl	116	72	22	1972	Kadan	Kn
21	Prunerov	Brunnersdorf	2234	1371	320	1966	Kadan	Kn
22	Prezetic	Proesteritz	116	71	21	1972	Kadan	Kn
23	Racice	Retschitz	164	88	28	1981	Brezno	Cv
24	Tusimice	Tuschmitz	310	149	54	1972	Kadan	Kn
25	Vrchnice	Wuergnitz	76	27	10	1972	Kadan	Kn
26	Zasada	Sosau	252	178	39	1985	Malkov	Cv
	<b>Celkem</b>		<b>19670</b>	<b>12523</b>	<b>1730</b>			

**Table 2 Settlements disappeared due to water supply buildings and policies**

Ord	Czech n.	German n.	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1959	Hous. 1930	Per.	Mun.	JD
27 (1)	Besice	Weschitz	184	83	37	1967	Brezno	Kn
28 (2)	Cermniky	Tschermich	174	86	31	1963	Brezno	Cv
29 (3)	Dolany	Dohlau	198	84	35	1967	Chbany	Kn
30 (4)	Dolina	Doernsdorf	945	84	154	1979	Kr.Hamry	Pe
31 (5)	Drahonice	Drohnitz	140	53	26	1967	Chbany	Kn
32 (6)	Chotenice	Kudenitz	108	54	25	1967	Brezno	Kn
33 (7)	Kyjice	Kaitz	511	376	91	1979	Vrskman	Jv
34 (8)	Lomazice	Lametitz	83	69	24	1967	Chbany	Kn
35 (9)	Menhartice	Maerzdorf	168	12	38	1950+	Krimov	HS
36 (10)	Prisecnice	Pressnitz	2606	731	435	1974	Kr.Hamry	Pe
37 (11)	Rusova	Reischdorf	2045	328	333	1974	Kr.Hamry	Pe
38 (12)	Ujezd	Ojes	136	97	32	1980	Vrskman	Jv
	<b>Celkem</b>		<b>7298</b>	<b>2057</b>	<b>1261</b>			

**Table 3 Settlements disappeared due to waste dumps of power plants**

Ord.	Czech n.	German n.	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1950	Hous. 1930	Per.	Mun.	JD
39 (1)	<b>Mikulovice</b>	Niklasdorf	398	238	70	1988	Klasterec n.O.	Kn
40 (2)	<b>Pavlov</b>	Ahrendorf	235	100	47	1990	Klasterec n.O.	Kn
41 (3)	<b>Potocna</b>	Schoenbach	105	27	23	1990	Klasterec n.O.	Kn
42 (4)	<b>Vernerov</b>	Wernsdorf	1156	545	174	1988	Klasterec n.O.	Kn
43 (5)	<b>Vysocany</b>	Wissotschan	266	157	67	1980	Hrusovany	Zc
	<b>Celkem</b>		<b>2160</b>	<b>1067</b>	<b>381</b>			

**Table 4 Settlements disappeared due to the post-war resettlement**

Ord.	Czech n.	German n.	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1950	Hous. 1930	Per.	Mun.	JD
44 (1)	<b>Dolni Halze</b>	Unterhals	103	0	22	1970+	Medenec	Pe
45 (2)	<b>Emanueluv Dvur</b>	Emanuelshof	107	6	15	1979	Mastov	Dv
46 (3)	<b>Gabrielina Hut</b>	Gabriellahuetten	151	0	16	1955	Kalek	Jv
47 (4)	<b>Jilmova</b>	Ulmbach	125	3	n	1955	Hora Sv.Seb.	HS
48 (5)	<b>Kienhaid</b>	Kienhaid	235	172	39	1950+	Kalek	Jv
49 (6)	<b>Konice</b>	Konitz	134	0	26	1960+	Mastov	Dv
50 (7)	<b>Krcma</b>	Kretscham	56	2	10	1967	Domasin	Pe
51 (8)	<b>Kunov</b>	Kunau	173	10	36	1970	Klasterec n.O.	Pe
52 (9)	<b>Kysovice</b>	Gaischwitz	149	44	27	1979	Vysluni	Pe
53 (10)	<b>Mezilesi</b>	Orpus	96	15	16	1980+	Kr.Hamry	Pe
54 (11)	<b>Nebovazy</b>	Nockowitz	99	18	20	1980+	Krimov	Cv
55 (12)	<b>Nova Viska u D.</b>	Neudoerfel	212	7	38	1979	Domasin	Pe
56 (13)	<b>Podmilesy</b>	Poellma	192	12	35	1967	Domasin	Pe
57 (14)	<b>Pohranicni</b>	Reizenhain	223	26	35	1955	Hora Sv.Seb.	HS
58 (15)	<b>Sobetice</b>	Zobietitz	94	9	18	1979	Vysluni	Pe
59 (16)	<b>Straz</b>	Tschoschl	182	18	33	1980+	Krimov	Cv
60 (17)	<b>Sumna</b>	Schoenburg	19	13	5	1990+	Klasterec n.O.	Kn
61 (18)	<b>Trebiska</b>	Triebischl	97	88	20	1979	Vysluni	Pe
62 (19)	<b>Uboci</b>	Zieberle	54	0	11	1967	Vysluni	Pe
63 (20)	<b>Uhost</b>	Purberg	52	6	8	1963	Uhostany	Kn
64 (21)	<b>Venkov</b>	Wenkau	326	0	40	1974	Kr.Hamry	Pe
65 (22)	<b>Volyne</b>	Wohlau	331	54	58	1979	Vysluni	Pe
66 (23)	<b>Vysoke</b>	Haadorf	125	10	23	1963	Klasterec n.O.	Pe
67 (24)	<b>Zvonickov</b>	Maennelsdorf	93	24	17	1963	Uhostany	Kn
	<b>Celkem</b>		<b>3533</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>568</b>			

**Table 5 Settlements disappeared due to military interests**

Ord.	Czech n.	German n.	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1950	Hous. 1930	Per.	Mun.	JD
68 (1)	<b>Dlouhy Luh</b>	Langenau	180	41	23	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
69 (2)	<b>Donin</b>	Dohnau	48	33	9	1950-	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
70 (3)	<b>Doupov</b>	Duppau	1524	525	272	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
71 (4)	<b>Hermanov</b>	Hermersdorf	181	11	37	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
72 (5)	<b>Hluboka</b>	Tiefenbach	158	52	34	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
73 (6)	<b>Hora</b>	Horn	53	13	10	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
74 (7)	<b>Hrzin</b>	Gruen	73	23	9	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
75 (8)	<b>Humnice</b>	Humitz	53	20	9	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
76 (9)	<b>Hurka</b>	Horkau	107	41	20	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
77 (10)	<b>Jesen</b>	Gaessing	154	33	33	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
78 (11)	<b>Jindrichov</b>	Heinersdorf	134	68	33	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
79 (12)	<b>Jirov</b>	Jurau	192	7	33	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
80 (13)	<b>Kozlov</b>	Koslau	119	39	26	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
81 (14)	<b>Litoltov</b>	Liesen	60	28	11	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
82 (15)	<b>Mala Lesna</b>	Kl.Spinnelsdorf	42	10	9	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
83 (16)	<b>Males</b>	Mohlischen	85	37	22	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
84 (17)	<b>Melnik</b>	Melk	54	3	11	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
85 (18)	<b>Metikalov</b>	Meckl	297	55	54	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
86 (19)	<b>Obrovice</b>	Wobern	164	66	35	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
87 (20)	<b>Oleska</b>	Olleschau	334	99	64	1953	<i>Hradište</i>	Dv
88 (21)	<b>Ostre</b>	Westrum	59	28	14	1954	<i>Hradistě</i>	Kn
89 (22)	<b>Pastviny</b>	Weiden	68	48	12	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
90 (23)	<b>Petrov</b>	Petersdorf	276	19	56	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
91 (24)	<b>Prachometry</b>	Promuth	180	28	35	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
92 (25)	<b>Radnice</b>	Redenitz	264	115	52	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
93 (26)	<b>Ratibor</b>	Rodbern	110	56	27	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
94 (27)	<b>Ruzova</b>	Rosengarten	91	2	18	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
95 (28)	<b>Rednice</b>	Rednitz	366	189	70	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
96 (29)	<b>Sedlec</b>	Zettlitz	190	64	36	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
97 (30)	<b>Martinov</b>	Merzdorf	184	71	35	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
98 (31)	<b>Telcov</b>	Teltsch	119	10	28	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
99 (32)	<b>Tocov</b>	Totzau	561	79	107	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
100 (33)	<b>Trmova</b>	Duermaul	266	97	51	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
101 (34)	<b>Tunkov</b>	Tunkau	174	16	34	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
102 (35)	<b>Turec</b>	Turtsch	256	75	51	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
103 (36)	<b>Velka Lesna</b>	Gr.Spinnelsdorf	69	35	13	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Kn
104 (37)	<b>Viska</b>	Doerfles	299	41	58	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
105 (38)	<b>Zaksov</b>	Sachsengruen	376	99	65	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
106 (39)	<b>Zdar</b>	Saar	557	105	108	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
107 (40)	<b>Zebetin</b>	Sebeltitz	85	37	21	1953	<i>Hradiste</i>	Dv
	<b>Celkem</b>		<b>8562</b>	<b>2418</b>	<b>1645</b>			

Note :

The military training area of Hradiste - lying from the year 1960 in the district of Karlovy Vary - caused the loss of 65 settlements - from which 40 s. on the area of the former dtr. of Kadan, 17 resp. 8 s. on the areas of the former dtrs. of Karlovy Vary and Touzím. More detailed data see Postolka (1993).

**Table 6 Disappeared settlements - reasons, position, population and houses**

Reason of ceasing	Settl.	Distr. CV	R. KH	R. DH	R. MP	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1950	Hous. 1930
Coal mining	26	23	0	0	23	19670	12523	1730+
Water buildings	12	12	4	0	8	7298	2057	1261
Waste dumps	5	5	2	0	3	2160	1067	381
Resettlement	24+	24	19	5	0	3533+	577+	568+
Military interests	40	0	0	0	0	8562	2418	1645
In total	107+	64	25	5	34	41223+	18642+	5585+
+ without data	4	4	2	2	0			
<b>S u m</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>34</b>			

**Table 7 Largest settlements ceased to exist in the Chomutov region**

Ord.	Czech n.	German n.	Inh. 1930	Inh. 1950	Hous. 1930	Per.	Mun.	Re
1 (7)	<b>Ervenice</b>	Seestadt	5121	3372	n	1950+	<i>Horni Jiretin</i>	CM
2 (36)	<b>Prisecnice</b>	Pressnitz	2606	731	435	1974	Krystof.Hamry	WS
3 (21)	<b>Prunerov</b>	Brunnersdorf	2234	1371	320	1966	Kadan	CM
4 (37)	<b>Rusova</b>	Reisdorf	2045	328	333	1974	Krystof.Hamry	WS
5 (6)	<b>Drinov</b>	Bartelsdorf	1811	1203	n	1976	<i>Horni Jiretin</i>	CM
6 (11)	<b>Kundratice</b>	Kunnersdorf	1760	1358	249	1974	Vysoka Pec	CM
7 (17)	<b>Nove Sedlo</b>	Neudorf a.B.	1674	1130	201	1975	Vrskman	CM
8 (70)	<b>Doupov</b>	Duppau	1524	525	272	1954	<i>Hradiste</i>	MI
9 (9)	<b>Kralupy</b>	Kralupp	1281	832	199	1976	Malkov	CM
10 (42)	<b>Vernerov</b>	Wernsdorf	1156	545	174	1980	Klasterec n.O.	WD
11 (8)	<b>Holesice</b>	Holtschitz	1104	780	n	1980	<i>Most</i>	CM
12 (30)	<b>Dolina</b>	Doernsdorf	945	84	154	1979	Krystof.Hamry	WS
(65)	<b>Volyne</b>	Wohlau	331	54	58	1979	Vysluni	PR

Notes :

Twelve largest settlements ordered after their number of population in the year 1930 - reflecting four from five different reasons of disappearing, and the largest one disappeared due to the post-war resettlement by spontaneous decline (fifth reason).

**Explanations to the attached tables:**

**Inh. 1930** = number of population in 1930 (acc. to official results of census)

**Inh. 1950** = number of population in 1950 (acc. to official results of census)

**Hous. 1930** = number of houses in 1930 (acc. to official results of census)

**Per.** = period (official year) of settlement ceasing (acc. to the authors sources)

**Mun.** = belongs to the municipality in 2002 (acc. to the authors sources)

**JD** = belonged under the „judicial district“ until 1948 (acc. to the authors sources)

Cv = Chomutov      Ji = Jirkov      HS = Hora Sv. Sebestiana  
Kn = Kadan      Dv = Doupov      Pe = Prisecnice      Zc = Zatec

**Re** = reasons of settlement disappearing (acc. to the authors sources)

CM = coal mining      WS = water supply      MI = military interests  
WD = waste dumps      PR = post-war resettlement (spontaneous decline)

**Notes to the attached tables:**

- 1) Hous.1930 - no available data for the settlements of Ervenice, Drinov and Holesice (tab. 1), = n
- 2) No available data for four settlements - Vlkan, Vojnin, Hajovna and Sorgenthal - ceased due to and during the post-war resettlement
- 3) In the assessed area included three former settlements from the area of the dtr.of Most and 40 former settlements from the area of the dstr.of Karlovy Vary
- 4) In italic script are listed (tab.1-5) municipalities lying at present in the neighbouring districts of Most and Karlovy Vary
- 5) Military training area (MTA) Hradiste - in the dtr. of Karlovy Vary - brought outsettlement and ceasing of together 65 settlements, out of which 40 settlements on the area of the former dtr. of Kadan, 17 and 8 settlements in the areas of the former dtrs. of Karlovy Vary and Touzim
- 6) In the area of the dtr. of Chomutov were identified together already 68 (64 + 4) disappeared settlements
- 7) In the area of the dtr. of Chomutov were identified moreover 34 settlements (20 in the Krusne hory Mts., 10 in the Doupovske hory Mts. and 4 in the Mostecka panev basin) with less than 10 living inhabitants (census 2001) - probably threatened by lost of their residential function in the near future
- 8) In the area of the dtr. of Chomutov were identified in the year 1950 in sum 176 inhabited settlements, from those more than 100 settlements either already disappeared or could be in the near future threatened by ceasing
- 9) Parts - regions of the dtr. of Chomutov from physical - geographical point of view  
KH = Krusne hory Mts. DH = Doupovske hory Mts. MP = Mostecka panev basin
- 10) Czech names of the settlements in the tables / texts are given without Czech diacritical signs
- 11) Most of the listed disappeared settlements - with Czech names - are located on the attached map (some of them are not given there in right way however – see notes to the attached map)
- 12) Settlements in the attached tables 1-5 are ordered in principle in the Czech alphabetical order, but with some exceptions.

**Notes to the attached map:**

The attached map – with regard to technical problems to reproduce so large volume of scanned data – covers only the western part of the case region and includes the whole areas of the former „judicial districts“ of Hora Sv.Sebastiana, Prisecnice, Vejprty (in the Krusne hory Mts.) and Doupov (in the Doupovske hory Mts.), and the parts of the former „judicial districts“ of Jirkov, Chomutov, Kadan, Podborany and Jachymov (stretching mainly the Mostecka panev basin and the adjacent areas in the Krusne hory Mts. or Doupovske hory Mts. as well). The geographical names on the map are given in Czech language - most of which have been permanently used however after 1945 year - and their German equivalents are listed the attached tables 1 – 5.

Some listed disappeared settlements are not given on the map in right way – Vernerov, Mikulovice and Pavlov (nearby Klasterec n.O.) ceased to exist due to „waste dumps of Prunerov power plant“, Rusova (nearby Prisecnice) due to „water supply buildings and policies“, Dolni Halze (nearby Medenec) due to „spontaneous decline“, etc.

Source: Lorber 1994



**Acknowledgements :**

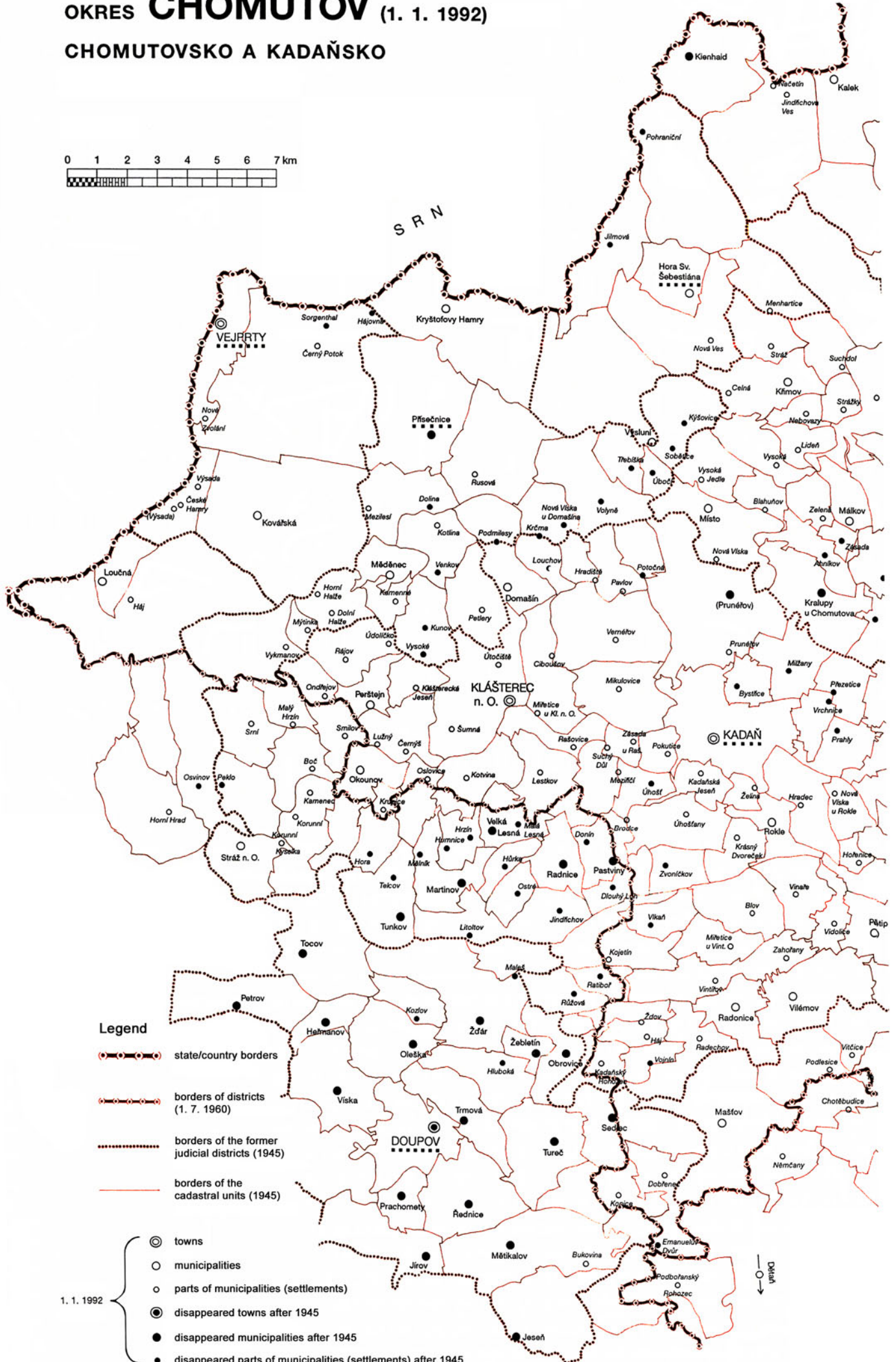
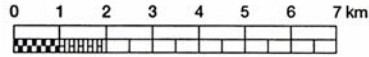
The article was written also in compliance with the 40 years „anniversary“ of disappearing of the Basic school in 1964 in one of the largest disappeared settlements of the region, in the „very nice“ village Prunerov near the town of Kadan. I was born in this village and I am personally very grateful to my parents, my teachers and my school-friends from this village and school, who have been maintaining and in spite of all the time-span still hold in fresh their love and memories tied so closely to the physically disappeared places at this piece of the world. I hope the people from all the disappeared settlements in the region and their descendants will bring and increasingly stipulate the so needed and still missing embeddedness and love to the so strongly afflicted region and their homeland.

I appreciate and I should like to underline very much also the efforts of the authorities of the Town of Kadan and The Club of the Friends of the Town of Kadan (Klub pratel mesta Kadane), which during the nineties started to organize annual meetings in favour of such an idea. As well I hope and expect fruitful contribution aiming to the local and regional identity encouragement and inforcement due to initiatives by means of the established local foundation named The Disappeared Municipalities and Towns of the Chomutov Region (Zanikle obce a mesta chomutovskeho regionu).

Finally I appreciate also the new formed mining company Severoceske doly (Northbohemian Mines) settled in the town of Chomutov for its significant financial support and involvement in favour of all activities reminding of the region's „disappeared settlements“.

# OKRES CHOMUTOV (1. 1. 1992)

## CHOMUTOVSKO A KADAŇSKO



### Legend

- state/country borders
- borders of districts (1. 7. 1960)
- borders of the former judicial districts (1945)
- borders of the cadastral units (1945)

1. 1. 1992
- towns
  - municipalities
  - parts of municipalities (settlements)
  - disappeared towns after 1945
  - disappeared municipalities after 1945
  - disappeared parts of municipalities (settlements) after 1945

↓  
Dleň