

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Rumania REPORT [redacted]

SUBJECT Military Units in Rumania DATE DISTR. 7 July 1964 50X1-HUM

TF ([redacted] Engineers Battalion, Underground ammo depot, Basic

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REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO. [redacted] *training for tank and gun crews* 50X1-HUM

PLACE & DATE ACQ. [redacted] *at Lysova Redna* 50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

[redacted]

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reports containing information on the following:

- a. The 101st Radiotechnical Regiment and the 221st Engineers Regiment. [redacted]
- b. Railroad Troops in the Cluj Area. [redacted]
- c. Regimental School for Tank and Self-propelled Gun Crews, and the 237th Tank Regiment. [redacted]

Distribution of attachment: 50X1-HUM

Army: Retention 50X1-HUM

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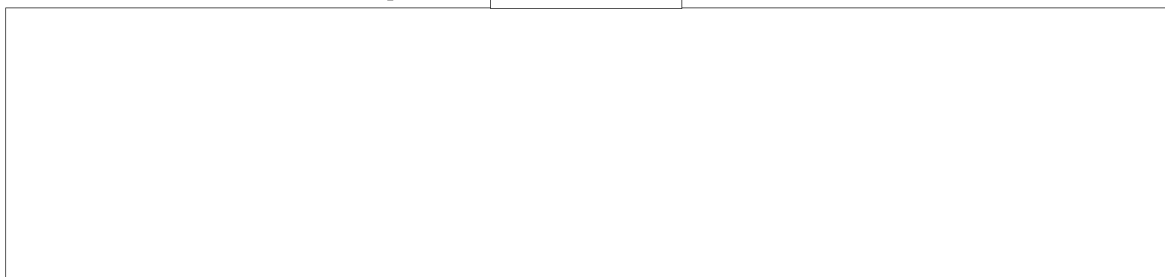
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COUNTRY: Rumania

SUBJECT: The 101st Radiotechnical Regiment (OILA)
[redacted] and the 221st Engineers
Regiment [redacted]

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1. The 101st Radiotechnical Regiment (Regimental Radiotehnic 101)

[redacted] or the Regiment for Observation, Passing of Informa-
tion, and Aerial Communications (OILA), had headquarters about 20
meters from the entrance to the Otopeni military airfield near
Bucharest.¹ The central station, which had the longest radar range
in Rumania, coordinated information on all aircraft over Rumania
from the six OILA stations situated in Iasi, Roman, Constanta,
Timisoara, Craiova, and Brasov. This regiment was subordinate to
the Regional Air Command (Comandamentul Apararei Teritorului)
commanded by Major General Cutoiu (fnu), which was situated in a
large building east of the Bucharest-Floesti highway about two
kilometers past the Baneasa airport. Opposite this building, a
turnoff from the main highway led to the school for Securitate

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officers (scoala MAI).

2. The "Operations Room of Bucharest", the central station, was a large hall on the first floor of headquarters, which contained six plotting tables, one for each radar station. Soldiers recorded the telephone messages received from each radar station, in a numerical code, which indicated aircraft movement in the area in the appropriate square. An officer seated in the center of the room, passed the data to the second floor, where senior officers from the air force and the antiaircraft artillery maintained contact with the other members of the Warsaw Pact forces. Each member country had two representatives of its air force and antiaircraft artillery stationed at the Operations Room. Headquarters for the Otopeni airfield, commanded by Major General Sandru (fnu) and Major General Sendrea (fnu), were also situated on the second floor.
3. Each of the radar stations (posturi radiotehnici) was equipped with two radar sets mounted on six vehicles (no details), one with a range of 250 kilometers, and one with a range of more than 500 kilometers. Each station also had radio transmitters and receivers (no details).
4. The 221st Engineers Regiment (Regiment Geniu) under the command of Major Vasile Girite, was stationed about 150 meters from the Rimnicu-Vilcea (N45-06, E 24-22) railroad station in barracks built by the Germans during World War II. This regiment was composed of about 1200 men, including 100 officers, and had the following components: a battalion composed of two companies of three platoons for building bridges and roads; a battalion of only two companies

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for building roads; a technical battalion of two companies; a reconnaissance platoon (pluton de cercetaj) equipped with mine detectors; a chemical platoon of 30 men who instructed the entire regiment in chemical warfare; and a transport company equipped with four Praga trucks and ten horses and carts.

5. The technical battalion was in charge of the regiment's heavy equipment, including five bulldozers, two amphibious trucks, 32 ZIS-151 trucks, and more than 100 pontoons.
6. The regiment had an underground storage for explosives in the banks of the Olt River on the outskirts of Budesti.

[redacted] Comment: By late 1958, [redacted] the operations room had been moved farther away from the road into a small wood where the airfield's radar station was situated.

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Rumania

Regimental School for Tank and
Self-propelled Gun Crews [redacted]
and the 237th Tank Regiment [redacted]

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1. Under the command of Lt. Colonel Emil Bulai, the regimental school for tank and self-propelled gun crews (scoala regimentala echipe tancuri si autotunuri) [redacted] was situated about 300 or 400 meters from the Lipova railroad station in barracks, which had served as an officers' training school before World War II. The school, which had been transferred from its original site at Firgoviste to Lugos in 1957, was relocated at Lipova, near Arad, in April or May 1958. The school's maneuver area was at Radna, about 20 kilometers from Lipova. 50X1-HUM
2. The school, which was organized within an enlarged regiment, had the following components: three battalions of tank drivers (mecanici-conductorii); one battalion of tank commanders (comandanti tancuri); one battalion of tank gunners (ochitori tancuri); three battalions of self-propelled gun drivers; one artillery battalion; one battalion of self-propelled gun commanders; one maintenance battalion for the regiment's tanks, self-propelled guns, and other equipment; and one quartermaster company. Each battalion had three companies (companie) composed of four platoons (plutoane), which had four sections of 12 men each. When a similar regimental school at Oradea was closed down in 1958, the number of platoons in each company and the number of sections in each platoon at subject school was increased from four to five.
3. The recruits at subject school had undergone previous technical training, and most of them were graduates of technical secondary schools. After 11 months of training, the trainees were given theoretical and practical examinations and then assigned to combat units, most of them without promotion and some as lance corporals. The first three months of basic training for tank personnel included parade drills, learning military rules and regulations, use of the rifle and P.P.Sh. submachine gun, and basic familiarization of the T-34 tank. After the three months' general training,

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all tank personnel were trained for their specific assignments. For example, tank drivers spent six hours a day, two days a week, on theoretical study, and four days per week doing three hours of theoretical study and three hours of practical training, including practice in a stationary tank. The daily routine of all trainees also included one hour for cleaning weapons, one hour of homework, and one hour of cultural activity. Only after five months' training did the drivers begin driving practice, which was held three hours each day for six months. Drivers also received the same general instructions given to tank commanders and gunners.

4. The school's graduates were transferred to combat units and given a noncommissioned rank after one month. During the last three months of compulsory military service, some of the noncommissioned officers took officers' training courses in their respective assignments and were given the rank of second lieutenant in the reserves when they were demobilized.

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5. Commanded by Lt. Colonel Nicolae Serban, the 237th Tank Regiment (regim. tancuri) [redacted] consisted of only two battalions, which were actually two tank companies, each of which had five T-34 training tanks. The regiment, which was situated across the tracks from the Tirgu-Mures railroad station, had about 40 or 50 soldiers and about twice that number of officers. The regiment had 80 T-34 tanks in its four sheds.

6. The 237th Tank Regiment was subordinate to a divisional armored corps headquartered at its barracks. In 1959, General Orban (fnu), the commanding officer of headquarters, was transferred to headquarters of the Cluj military district. He was replaced by his chief of staff, a lieutenant-colonel, who was promoted to colonel three months later.

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