DEC 1951 51-48

Approved For Release 2006/11/02 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000500820002-5

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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[redacted]

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Troops at Mangalia

[redacted]

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DATE DISTR. 3 MAY 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION

[redacted]

1. The infantry barracks is at the northwest edge of Mangalia. It is an old structure, consisting of two two-story buildings, 25 by 75 m, with various auxiliary depots, workshops, etc. It can house a battalion only with difficulty.

25X1 2. It is now occupied by a rifle battalion [redacted] This battalion belongs to a regiment in Constanta. During the summer and fall of 1953 it was doubled by a battalion of reservists under 1st Lt. Mihaj Nadescu. The training officer was 1st Lt. [fnu] Nemerescu.

3. The active battalion consists of a staff of 65 men; a communications platoon of 35 men; a mortar platoon of 30 to 32 men, with three 82 mm mortars; an AT platoon, 34 to 36 men, with two 57 mm AT guns; three rifle companies, each 95 to 100 men, with nine light machine guns per company; and a machine gun company, 90 men, with 12 heavy Maxim machine guns.

4. The men wear red shoulder boards; 80 percent of them come from old Rumania, the remaining 20 percent from Siebenbürgen, [Transilvania], the latter being of mixed minority groups. Morale is generally bad.

5. The battalion exercise area is close to the barracks, but the battalion is moved to Caracicula [sic] for major exercises. The greatest economy of ammunition is practiced in the heavy weapons units. The battalion is not motorized.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA CODES

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6. The reservist battalion of 1953 was organized on very simple lines, with a staff of 25, and two companies, each 110 to 120 men. Each company was armed with two heavy machine guns, two light machine guns two 182 mm mortars and two 57 mm AT guns. Quartermaster service was furnished to it by the active battalion. The men belonged to the classes 1924 to 1927.

7. The reservists were taught the new Soviet weapons and tactics according to Soviet regulations developed out of the Korean War. There were no alarm exercises for them, and they learned only theoretically to handle heavy weapons.

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