Approved For Release 2006/11/09 : CIA-RDP80-00810A002900150004-9

FLP 151

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORM

COUNTRY Austria

REPORT [redacted]

TOPIC Soviet Tank Unit in Bruck/Leitha

EVALUATION [redacted] PLACE OBTAINED [redacted]

DATE OF CON[redacted]

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 28 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

[redacted]

25X1 a. The tank unit under Lieutenant Colonel Kravchenko (fnu), who was Ukrainian and was popular with his men, was below regimental size and was equipped with T-34 tanks with 4-man crews. Each tank was commanded by a staff sergeant and each four-tank group was commanded by an officer.

25X1

25X1 b. Major General Bubruk, (fnu), who was a Ukrainian and was popular with all soldiers, was division commander. He frequently inspected the unit, [illegible] in mid-September 1953. The division headquarters, which was stationed at Moedling (O 49/X 37), was rotated to the Doellersheim (O 49/R 53) training grounds.

25X1

25X1 c. At 2 a.m. on 21 September 1953, an alert exercise commenced for the tank unit in Bruck on the Leitha River. The entire unit left after 20 minutes. Ten percent of all tanks broke down when they had proceeded some 1[illegible] toward the artillery range near Bruck on the Leitha River, where [illegible] firing from tanks was held at night.

25X1

d. Fall inspections held in September 1953 involved one general and four officers who came from Moscow.

e. The soldiers were increasingly instructed not to waste public property. They were told for instance that every round would cost their fathers one chicken and that their uniforms were also paid by their fathers in the USSR.

25X1 [redacted] Comment. It is known that a tank unit which belongs to the 13th Gds Mecz Div is stationed at Bruck/Leitha, where the 15th (Gds ?) Tank Regt of the 13th Gds Mecz Div was carried. The statement by the Soviet staff officer that his unit is below regimental size is believed to indicate that the unit is either only one battalion of the 15th (Gds ?) Tank Regt or the tank [illegible] battalion of the division hitherto presumed stationed at Goetzendorf. He [illegible] Colonel Kravchenko (fnu), is known as commander of a tank unit of the 13th Gds Mecz Div. A Soviet document in February 1951 identified a guards major [illegible]

/ MORNI

Approved For Release 2006/11/09 : CIA-RDP80-00810A002900150004-9

Approved For Release 2006/11/09 : CIA-RDP80-00810A002900150004-9

[redacted]

25X1 name as secretary of the Party office [redacted] (15th Tank Regt of the 13th Gds Mecz Div), but it is doubted that he should be the tank unit commander whom the staff sergeant mentioned (in February 1951, Gds Lieutenant Colonel Kucherenko (fnu), was commander of the 15th (Gds ?) Tank Regt). Major General Bobruk (fnu), - not Bubruk -, division commander, was previously reported. The present statement by the Soviet staff sergeant again confirms that the division headquarters is stationed at Moedling. It was inferred from other reports that the bulk of the 13th Gds Mecz Div was at the Doellersheim training camp after 15 September. The division headquarters may therefore also have been there as indicated by the present report.

Approved For Release 2006/11/09 : CIA-RDP80-00810A002900150004-9