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**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

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COUNTRY	USSR/East Germany	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	50X1
SUBJECT	Characteristics of Soviet Army Weapons and Armored Vehicles	DATE DISTR.	1 December 1955	
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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Comments: 50X1

1. The T-54 medium tank is equipped with armament consisting of a 100 mm caliber gun, one coaxial machine gun, one antiaircraft machine gun, and a bow machine gun.
2. In paragraph C, page 3, reference is made by source to a new heavy tank, the Joseph Stalin - 9. Previous reports have identified a new JS-4 heavy tank.
3. In paragraph D, page 3, armored carriers (Brone Transportyor) should read armored carriers (Bronetransportëpy).

~~C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L~~

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STATE	X#	ARMY	X#	NAVY	X#	AIR	X#	FBI	#	AEC				
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**REPORT**

50X1

**COUNTRY** USSR/East Germany

**DATE DISTR.** 26 Oct 1955

**SUBJECT** Characteristics of Soviet Army Weapons  
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**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

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## CHARACTERISTICS OF SOVIET ARMY WEAPONS AND ARMORED VEHICLES

Introduction

This report contains the identification and performance data and characteristics of a group of relatively new Soviet Army weapons and armored vehicles. Items covered in some detail are the T/54 tank and an unidentified amphibious tank. Other items merely identified or on which only very marginal data was known are two types of armored personnel carriers, a carbine believed to be the SKS model, a vague, hearsay reference to an alleged new heavy tank and an incredibly unlikely hearsay report concerning an airdropped amphibious "tankette".

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## A. T/54 MEDIUM TANK

50X1	<b>Model</b>	T/54
	<b>Gun</b>	100-mm caliber
50X1	<b>Secondary Armament</b>	Two machine guns [redacted] one coaxial (caliber unknown) and one mounted turret (caliber unknown).
50X1	<b>Steering</b>	Friction clutch
50X1	<b>Armor</b>	[redacted] a Soviet 57-mm anti-tank gun would not penetrate its armor.
50X1	<b>Fire Extinguisher</b>	Had an automatic fire extinguisher for the engine compartment. [redacted]
50X1		[redacted] experiment where two pails of combustible liquid were poured into the engine compartment and ignited. In two seconds the fire was allegedly out because of the action of the extinguisher system.
50X1	<b>Stabilizer</b>	[redacted] the tank has a stabilizer for the main armament.
50X1	<b>Crew</b>	4 men
50X1	<b>Ammunition</b>	[redacted] fixed ammunition was used for the main armament. No further information.
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## B. UNIDENTIFIED SOVIET AMPHIBIOUS TANK

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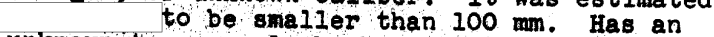
Length Unknown 50X1

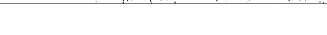
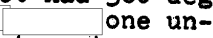
Width Wider than the T-34  50X1



Tracks Narrower than those of T-34


Speed: on land  50X1  
 slower than the T-34. 50X1

in water Unknown 50X1



Main Armament One gun, of unknown caliber. It was estimated  to be smaller than 100 mm. Has an unknown type muzzle brake. 50X1

Turret  this turret had 360 degree traversing.  one unidentified machine gun on this turret. 50X1

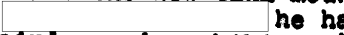
Screws  canvas-covered twin screws and  they projected out of the rear of the tank when in the water, but retracted into the hull when on land. 50X1

Classification Believed  to be Secret. 50X1


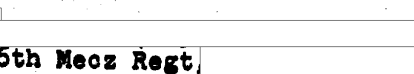





 this tank was made in two models. One was a light model and one a heavy model. They were made by the Stalin Works in Moscow.  50X1

### C. OTHER ALLEGED NEW SOVIET ARMORED EQUIPMENT

While source was in transit through White Russia, on leave in June 1955, he met on the train an unidentified junior sergeant from Novo Borisov (where source took his own basic training), who was a tanker. After the two had begun a discussion on armor in general, the junior sergeant told him that he had been training on a new heavy tank which he called the Joseph Stalin-9. The discussion was interrupted by the arrival of some additional passengers, and source could only add that the sergeant had stated that the new tank mounted a 152-mm gun. The same sergeant repeated  he had heard concerning the alleged existence of an airdropped amphibious "tankette" (sic) (tankette). No further information. 50X1

### D. BTR 152 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC THREE-AXELED, 6 x 6) 1

  the 1st Mtrzd Bn, 16th Mecz Regt,  had nine 3-axeled armored personnel carriers.  BTR 152 armored carriers (Brone Transportyor). Six of them, mounting a  50X1

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[Redacted]

single unidentified machine gun on either side, were in the APC Platoon of the battalion. The remaining three, mounting a twin unidentified AA machine gun <sup>2</sup> (which was known [Redacted] only as the ZPU) in the vehicle bed were in the AA Machine Gun Plat of the battalion. [Redacted]

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50X1

E.

50X1

50X1

[Redacted]

F. SKS CARBINE

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[Redacted] the 16th Mecz Regt) were issued a new 7.62 mm semi-automatic carbine in 1954. [Redacted] rifle grenades might be fired from this weapon. <sup>4</sup>

1.

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2.

Comment: This may well be the weapon identified as the ZPU-2. [Redacted]

3.

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4.

5.

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Comment: [Redacted] the secondary armament of the T/54 consisted of three machine guns. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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