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SECRET CONTROL
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STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT, WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, D.C.

Country: USSR

Subject: Organization of MVD Troops

Date of Information: Prior to 1 July 1946

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General Administration

1. The MVD troops are believed to be directed by a Headquarters Staff in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This staff is divided into two Chief Administrations--Frontier Troops and Internal Troops. The direction of the technical and service troops is the function of special Administrations for Aviation, Motor and Armored Troops, Engineer Troops, Anti-Aircraft and Fire-protection Troops (see attached diagram).

2. All MVD military units assigned to particular Military Districts or Fronts are under the control of the "Commanders of MVD Troops in the Military Districts and Fronts". This control, however, is only operational, not administrative.

Chief Administration of the Frontier Troops (abbrev. GUPV)

3. In addition to the Coast Guard Forces of the Navy, the GUPV of the MVD controls all land Frontier Troops as well as any reinforcing units and auxiliary subordinate formations attached to them.

4. The Coast Guard units of the Navy are only operationally subordinate to the MVD Troops Command. In other respects, training and service is performed on ships and in naval installations in accordance with the regulations set forth by the Chief of the Naval General Staff in the Armed Forces Ministry. On the first day of mobilization, the control of Naval Coast Guard units is transferred to the various Fleet Commanders.

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Chief Administration of Internal Troops (abbrev. GUVV)

5. The GUVV controls the Special, Escort, Railway, and Communications troops. The Special Troops are the most mobile, and technically the best-equipped. They are designed for high maneuverability; thus, they are fully mechanized and have their own air, tank, armored-car, and cavalry units.

6. The troops of the three remaining services are assigned to particular jobs. In general, their subordinate units are widely dispersed. The 8th Railway Division, for example, has over 1,200 kilometers of railway lines under its supervision. Only the mobile mechanized reserve units are kept together in compact formations.

[redacted]

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