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TOPIC (Training of the Soviet Zone Police)

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Training of the Soviet Zone Police

(b) (1)  
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Until the end of June 1949

1. There is a noticeable transition from technical police training to tactical military training evident in the Soviet Zone police. There are certain indications that the Soviet Zone police is increasingly engaged in military training in addition to technical police training. These indications include the following:
  - a. The military training is now restricted to individual infantry training and training at the lowest unit level (i.e. in squad or platoon strength).
  - b. It has been reported only once that police units of 300 to 500 men cooperated with Soviet army units in a maneuver (sealing off and annihilation of airborne enemy forces) which was held in Saxony in mid-June 1949 (E-3).
  - c. The training program of the police schools in the Soviet Zone of Germany gives priority to political schooling and individual infantry training over technical police training.
2. Fighting qualities of the Soviet Zone police with regard to commitment outside of Germany.
  - a. In their present state of training, the Soviet Zone police units are suited for only limited combat service outside Germany. Although the efficiency of the individual policeman must not be underestimated, the police units are not yet sufficiently trained to merit their commitment as whole units with definite striking power.
  - b. By the recently started induction of ex-officers of the former German Armed Forces, the Soviet Zone police obviously tries to profit by these officers' war experience.

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