

COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFO Approved For Release 2003/08/06 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000600520010-7

TOPIC Brandis Airfield

EVALUATION see below 25X1

[Redacted]

DATE PREPARED 20 February 1953

REFERENCES -25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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[Redacted]

1. The following observations were made at Brandis airfield between 21 and 26 January 1953:

25X1 21 January. [Redacted] an IL-10 plane circled once over the field. The visibility was limited to about 2 km.

25X1 22 January. [Redacted] the sky was overcast, and there was a visibility of 2 km. Four IL-10s circled over the field.

25X1 23 January. There was no air activity.

25X1 24 January. [Redacted] flying was practiced by two IL-10s. There was a closed cloud base and a visibility of 2 km.

25X1 25 January. [Redacted] ground attack planes practiced flying. There was the same weather as on 24 January.

25X1 26 January. There was a 6/10 overcast and visibility of 2 to 4 km. Six Li-2s with red and gray markings circled over the field [Redacted]

25X1 [Redacted] One IL-10 plane was observed aloft [Redacted] 1

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2. An exercise which involved tanks and lasted several days was completed [Redacted] on 21 January. At the same time, 12 T 34 tanks, [Redacted]

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25X1 were observed passing through Polenz en route toward Taucha. Two armored reconnaissance cars, 4 mortars, 6 AA guns, 6 AT guns, 2 field kitchens, 2 jeeps, and 1 sedan, and about 25 trucks were also observed passing through Polenz. [Redacted]

25X1 [Redacted] 2

25X1 3. [Redacted] on 22 January, there was no air activity at the field. Twenty-four ground attack planes were parked in front of the two eastern hangars in the northern section of the field. The area adjacent to the west, which was also suitable for the arrangement of aircraft could not be observed because of a ground wave. The landing field was covered with snow while the runway was clear and shiny. According to a wood worker, a new group arrived at the field a short time before. 3

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1. [ ] Comment. These observations confirm that Brandis airfield is occupied by ground attack and transport planes. One ground attack regiment and one air transport regiment are believed to be stationed there. The aircraft of the three squadrons of the transport regiment are marked by red, gray, and yellow stripes on their rudder assemblies.

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2. [ ] Comment. [ ] previously reported that army units started an exercise with combined weapons in the Brandis area on 13 January. The exercise was apparently completed on 21 January. The tanks observed in Polenz [ ] on 21 January, probably belong to the 11th Gds Tank Div while the motor vehicles observed belong to the 8th Gds Mecz Div. Therefore, it is possible that units of the two divisions participated in the exercise.

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3. [ ] Comment. The statement made [ ] is correct. The ground attack regiment from Dessau was transferred to Brandis on 26 December 1952.

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