

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

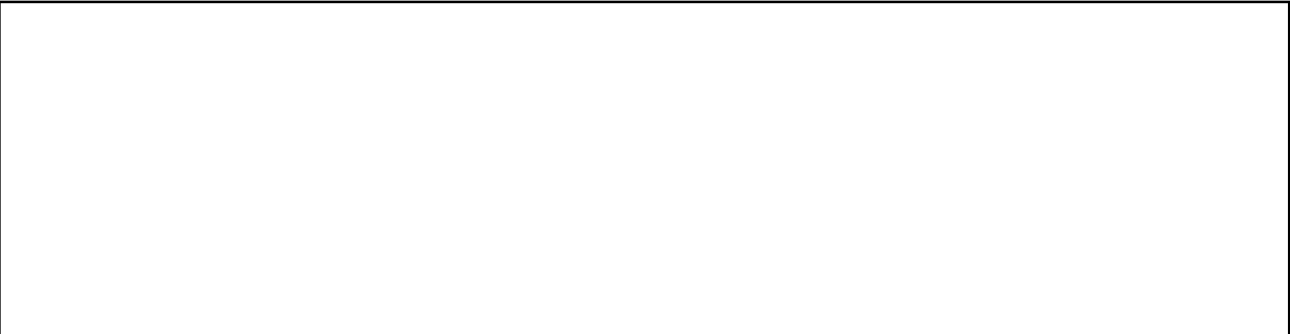
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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	East Germany/USSR	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1A
SUBJECT	Soviet Army Supply	DATE DISTR.	15 April 1953	
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1. I know of the regimental supply points of the 17th Gds. Mecz. Regt. in Eberswalde /See Items 8, 19 and 22 of Encl. A/, but have no knowledge as to the plans for displacement of supply dumps prior to hostile action or of the contemplated level of supplies on hand prior to combat action.
2. I do not know the ammunition unit of fire, and have never heard of special combat rations. Guards carried two magazines of 71 rounds each for their PPSHs SMGs. Each company had a store room where gas masks for all EM were stored.
3. I never received any first aid or other medical training. Two men in each company, however, received special training in first aid.  the 17th Gds. Mecz. Regt., had a medical detachment consisting of a major and two lieutenants, two non-commissioned officers and several privates. The Fourth Gds. Mecz. Army had a hospital in Eberswalde, to which 100 to 200 Soviet female uniformed civilians were assigned. There was also a hospital for the GOPG in Belitz /5214N-1258E/; I escorted an insane soldier there for treatment  I heard from other soldiers that this hospital had large stocks of medical supplies, but cannot give any details. This hospital was about four kilometers from Belitz and had formerly been a German hospital.
4. Until March 1952 the military compound in Eberswalde had an HO (Handels Organization - a German store selling toys, food, clothing, leather articles, etc.). The HO was closed in March 1952.  in Eberswalde there was a PX which sold the following items:

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STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI		AEC									
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated by "X"; Field Distribution by "#")

<u>Item</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Price</u>
Toothbrush	German	unknown
Toothpaste	German	75 pfennigs
Soap	German and Soviet	2 marks a bar
Cigarettes	Soviet	unknown
Shoes	German	200 marks and up
Shirts	German	unknown
Women's clothing	German	unknown
Radios	German	170-500 marks
Cameras	German	10-120 marks
Watches	German	unknown
Cookies	German	3 marks per box
Chocolate bars	German	Unknown
Fountain pens	German	3-10 marks
Officers' uniforms	German	90 marks per set
Collar bands (worn under collar)	German	10 for 4 marks

5. A ZIS-5 three-ton truck held about 60 liters of gasoline and had a cruising range of 200 km. at an average cruising speed of 30-35 km. per hour.
6. In the area of a guard battalion U/I in Bernau 5240N-1335E See item 6 of Encl. A I saw pontons Such as those shown in figure 28 on page 36 of the Technical Intelligence Report #9, Soviet River Crossing Equipment, dated March 1950. At various times these pontons were transported out of the area and returned on Studebaker trucks. I also noticed two motor boats loaded on trailers Similar or identical to those shown in figure 42, page 62, of the above-mentioned publication.
7. I heard that ammunition and heavy equipment were sent to the Soviet Zone of Germany by rail from the USSR. I assumed that food for Soviet troops in the Soviet Zone of Germany was provided by the German Government, since all containers had German lettering, however, I do not know the method of requisitioning or purchasing. Clothing and shoes for Soviet troops stationed in Germany were manufactured in Germany, but the origin of the raw materials is unknown to me.
8. The regiment picked up supplies by means of its organic transportation, utilizing two or three ZIS-5, three-ton, and two or three Ford, 1½ ton, trucks. The battalion had no supplies. The company received supplies from the regiment by means of regimental transportation. The company had no food supply since the EM of the companies ate in the regimental messhall. All supplies on company level, such as issue of fresh underwear once each week after the bath, issue of replacement for torn clothing or worn-out shoes, and issue of weapons and ammunition to guards going on duty, were handled by the first sergeant. In some units the CQ issued weapons to guards, but the first sergeant was responsible for the issuance of ammunition.

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9. Railroad crews in the USSR wore a distinctive dark gray uniform. I do not know if the Army had specially trained railroad transport, repair and construction units.
10. I believe that the transfer of supplies from the USSR to Germany was not accomplished at border points, but at large railroad junctions inside the USSR, such as those near Brest 5207N-2342E and in Kaliningrad 5445N-2030E. I did not observe any loading machinery at border points.
- 25X1 11. I was taught [redacted] that motor convoys could consist of as many as 100 vehicles, which travelled at speeds of 25-35 km. per hour. The distances between individual trucks were proportionate to the speeds at which the trucks moved, i.e., if the convoy travelled at 35 km. per hour, the distance between any two trucks was 35 m., and if the speed was 25 km. per hour, the distance was 25 m. The distance between serials was approximately 100 m.; this was arbitrary and was decided by the convoy CO. Men selected by the regimental transportation officer as traffic regulators were briefed in advance. They were placed at crossings by the first truck and picked up by the last truck in the convoy.
12. The typical ration for EM in my unit was as follows:
- Breakfast: Borshch or kasha, tea and sugar
- Dinner: Soup with meat, maccaroni or potatoes; or, plain soup, potatoes or maccaroni with meat or fish
- Supper: Kasha, potatoes or vegetables, tea and sugar

During the summer EM were given 700 gm. and in the winter 800 gm. of bread daily. There was no special holiday ration. The portions of food were large, and those who so desired could obtain second helpings. I was better fed in the Soviet Zone of Germany than while in the military service in the USSR.

13. The clothing allowance for EM in my unit was as follows:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Length of Issue</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
2	uniforms (gimnastyorka and breeches)	6 months	one dress and one work uniform; both uniforms were of the same type cotton cloth
1	overcoat	2 years	wool
1	short overcoat	1 year	cotton; issued as an extra item only to soldiers in their third year of service
1 pr	boots	1 year	
1	winter cap	1 winter	had to be exchanged for summer caps
2	summer caps	1 summer	had to be exchanged for winter cap
2 pr	winter foot wraps	1 year	usually too worn to be turned in
2 pr	summer foot wraps	1 year	usually too worn to be turned in
1	canvas belt	entire service period	

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<u>Amount</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Length of Issue</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	leather belt	entire service period	
3 pr	underwear	entire service period	one set was worn by the EM and two sets were kept in the supply room; exchanged for a fresh set once weekly

The EM also received monthly one cake of soap, 12 packs of makhorka, and three boxes of matches.

14. The following organization equipment was issued to EM:

- 1 wool blanket
- 2 cotton bed sheets (changed weekly)
- 1 pillow
- 1 pillow case (changed weekly)
- 1 towel (changed weekly)
- 1 mattress
- Gas mask
- Small shovel
- Ammunition belt with two pouches
- Mess gear
- Aluminum flask
- Weapon cleaning equipment kit
- Weapon - carbine for training, SMG for guard duty

The weapons were stored in a gun room, and the CQ or first sergeant was charged with their issue. Old clothes, with the exception of foot wraps, had to be turned in before a new issue could be made. In the event boots or clothing were torn, the first sergeant issued a temporary (used) issue until the item could be repaired. When an item was stolen or lost, which happened very rarely, the first sergeant issued some used replacements.

15. POL in my regiment was stored in underground tanks in what had formerly been German service stations. Gasoline was brought to the regiment in ZIS-5 trucks which had been converted into fuel carriers. These had two-ton capacities and I believe that they were organic regimental trucks. Oil was brought in 200 liter barrels, each weighing 160 kg. I did not know the unit to which these barrels belonged.

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16. [redacted] the Auto Platoon, 1st Mtz. Rifle Bn., 17th Gds. Mecz. Regt., had the following foreign-made equipment: 25X1
- 3-4 (exact number unknown to me) 1½-ton Ford trucks
  - 3 (exact number unknown to me) 3-ton Studebaker trucks
  - 1 Willys jeep
  - ? (number unknown to me) US armored cars
  - ? (number unknown to me) German field telephones

There was also an unknown number of Fords, Studebakers and Willys jeeps in all other units of the 17th Gds. Mecz. Regt. I never saw horse-drawn transportation.

17. The 6th Gds. Mecz. Div. had repair shops for weapons and vehicles /See item 5 or Encl. A/, but I do not know their T/O &E. Each company had a shoemaker and some had a tailor for the repair of uniforms

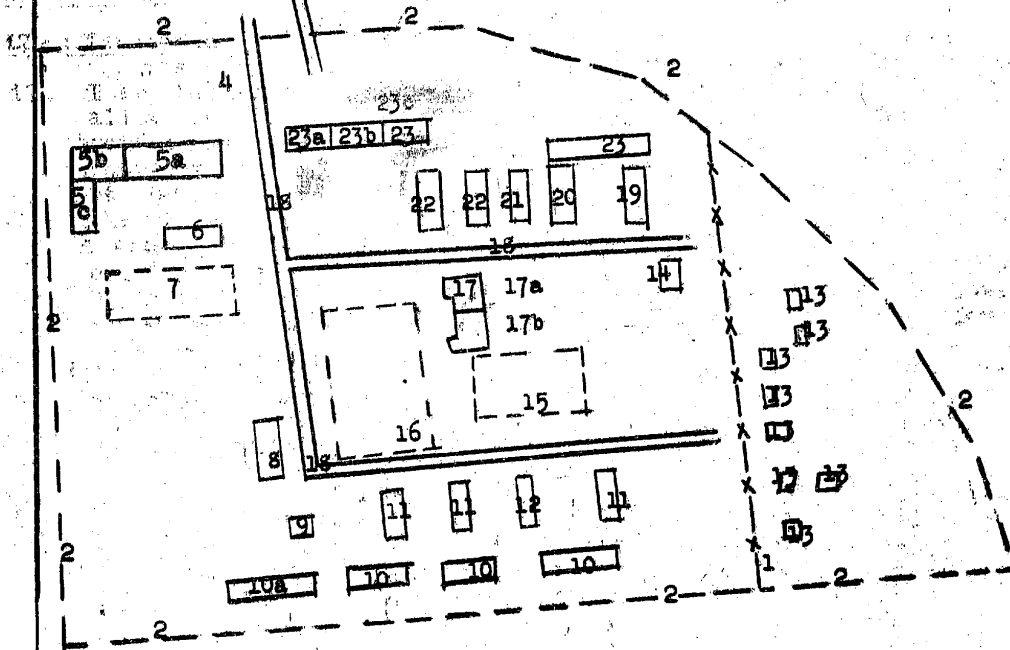
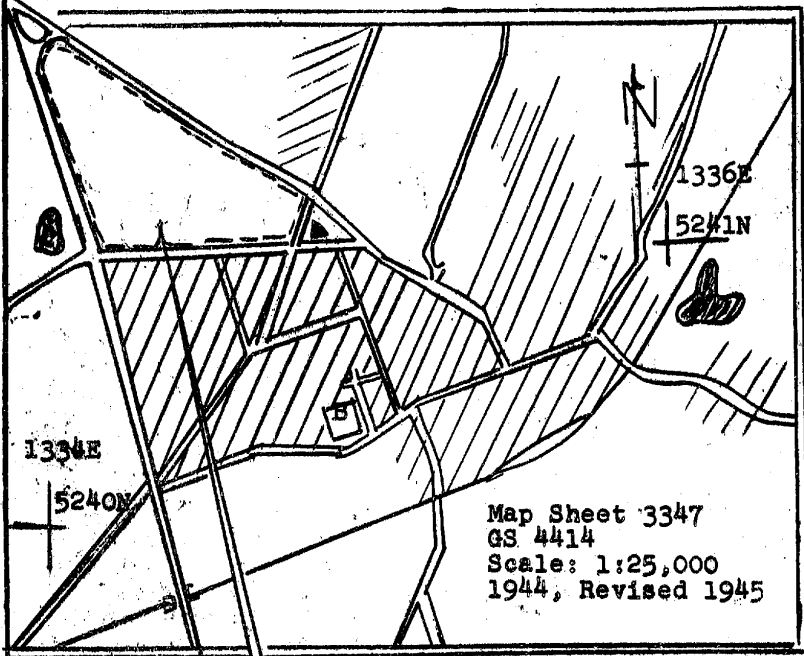
- 25X1 18. [redacted] chauffeurs' school, operated by the 6th Gds. Mecz. Div. 25X1  
for all its subunits [redacted] The school conducted an eight-month course for mechanics and a five-month course for drivers. About 200 students, all EM of the 6th Gds. Mecz. Div., attended the school. They were divided into six platoons; four platoons of about 30 men each attending the drivers' course and two platoons of about 35 men each attending the mechanics' course. The platoon leaders were also instructors. Classes for driver students were conducted between 0930 and 1530 hours daily on the engine, lubrication, electrical system, chassis and all other parts of jeeps and trucks. The rest of the day was scheduled for regular military and political training. Each student-driver received about 30 hours of actual driving instruction during the course. A test was given at the end of the course. About 10-15 men of the 130 men attending the drivers' course did not pass the test and were returned to their original units. The school had one jeep, three Studebaker three-ton trucks and nine ZIS-5, three-ton trucks for instruction purposes. 25X1

- 25X1X 19. [redacted] I was given an induction physical, which was very 25X1X  
superficial. [redacted] just prior to being sent to the Soviet Zone of Germany, I received a thorough medical examination in Chernyakovsk /5439N-2150E/, which included blood and urine tests and X-rays. I had a third routine medical examination, which was very cursory, [redacted] in Eberswalde. 25X1X

Enclosure A: Location of Units of 6th Gds. Mecz. Div. in Bernau

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Location of Units of 6th Gds Mecz Division  
in Bernau



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Location of Units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div in Bernau  
(All measurements are approximate)

Legend

- A. Location of the drivers' and tank training schools and the 35th Gds Mecz Regt auto repair base and engineer and rocket launchers battalions. (The area was triangular, one x one x 1 1/2 km, and was surrounded by a wooden fence some three m high. I heard that the area had formerly been used by the German Army.)
1. Two m high barbed wire fence between the officers; billets and the EM area.
  2. Three m high wooden fence.
  3. Wooden hut, three x three m - control point, manned by one NCO and two EM.
  4. Wooden hut, three x three m - vehicle control point. One officer and one NCO were on constant duty checking all incoming and outgoing vehicles and their contents.
  5. One-story brick building, 60 x 15 m.
    - 5a. Weapon repair shop.
    - 5b. Vehicle repair shop.
    - 5c. Completely destroyed and not used.
  6. Two-story brick building, 40 x 15 m - billets for EM of a Gds Engr Bn (u/1) and of the automobile repair section.
  7. Open air area, 100 x 50 m, containing trucks and pontoon equipment of the engineer unit.
  8. One-story brick building, 40 x 15 m - club for EM of the 35th Gds Mecz Regt, formerly a garage.
  9. One-story brick building, 10 x 10 m - quarters for guard detachments.
  10. Four one-story brick buildings, 30 x 15 m - garages.
    - 10a. 35th Gds Mecz Regt garage

Source did not know what units used the other three garages.
  11. Three two-story brick buildings, 40 x 15 m - billets for EM of the 35th Gds Mecz Regt.
  12. Two-story brick building, 40 x 15 m - billets for the u/1 Gds Rkt Bn
  13. Various sized two-story brick buildings - quarters for officers of various units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div. [redacted] no further details on officers' quarters. 25X1
  14. One-story brick building, 20 x 10 m - believed to be a depot. No further details.

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15. Open air parking area, 100 x 50 m - vehicles and guns of u/1 Gds How Regt parked in area.
16. Football field, 150 x 75 m.
17. One-story brick building, 50 x 15 m.
  - 17a. Messhall for EM of the 35th Gds Mezz Regt.
  - 17b. Messhall for students of the tank training and drivers' schools.
18. Roads leading into the compound for vehicles.
19. Two-story brick building, 40 x 15 m.
 

First floor contained classrooms for the drivers' school.

Second floor contained billets for about 200 students attending the school.
20. Two-story brick building, 40 x 15 m - classrooms and quarters for students of the tank training school.
21. One-story brick building, 25 x 15 m - mock-up tanks for tank training school instructional purposes kept in building.
22. Two two-story brick buildings, 40 x 15 m - billets for EM of the u/1 Gds How Regt.
23. One-story brick garages, 60 x 15 m.
  - a. Garages for vehicles of the tank training school
  - b. Garages for vehicles of the drivers' schools
  - c. Garages for vehicles of the Gds Rkt Bn (u/1)

Source did not know what units used the other garages.

- B. Source believed, but was not sure, that the headquarters of the 6th Gds Mezz Div was located in the designated location within the fenced off area. He had passed by the area but had never been inside the headquarters of the 6th Gds Mezz Div.

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