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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Infantry Unit in Nevrokop

1. In early May 1953, an unidentified infantry unit, Podelenie 4548¹, was located in Nevrokop. It was quartered in new barracks at the northwest end of the town, beyond the last houses and on the north side of the highway to Petrich.
 2. The unit is smaller than a regiment, and [redacted] it is an infantry battalion with 300 to 400 men. The following units are attached, as follows:
 - a. An antitank battery; has between four and six Soviet-made 45 mm. antitank guns [redacted]
 - b. A battery of field artillery pieces of Soviet manufacture, unspecified caliber; the guns have large rubber-tired wheels; [redacted]
 - c. A mortar battery; equipped with large Soviet-made mortars which fire 16 kilogram shells; the mortar is fastened to a large circular base and has wheels filled with raw rubber [redacted]
 - d. A heavy machine gun company, equipped with Maksim Sokolov machine guns.
- The unit has four ZIS trucks.
3. Each company of the infantry unit is equipped with antitank rifles and sniper rifles. [redacted] groups of 15 or 16 men equipped with four or five "Zbriovka" automatic weapons and two "Bren" guns. Other 15-man groups of the same company were equipped with Soviet type rifles.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	ARMY	# x	NAVY	# x	AIR	# x	FBI	AEC						
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4. The staff of the infantry unit is stationed in the barracks area [redacted] This unit replaced the 39 Infantry Regiment of the 9 Division which was transferred from Nevrokop before April 1951 (probably during 1950). [redacted] 39 Infantry Regiment was moved to Simitli (N 41-53, E 23-06) in 1950 and at least a part of the regiment is presently located in the artillery barracks at Breznik.

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25X1Infantry Unit in Lyubimets

5. An unidentified infantry unit [redacted] is located in Lyubimets (N 41-50, E 26-05). About April 1952, the unit was transferred from Khaskovo, and is subordinate to the Khaskovo garrison. After the move to Lyubimets, details from this unit were assigned to work on excavation of fortifications along the Bulgarian-Turkish and Bulgarian-Greek frontiers.
6. The unit included a heavy machine gun company armed with six Maksim Sokolov machine guns, each served by five men armed with the following weapons:
- a. Commander, with a Sudaev submachine gun with four clips and two hand grenades;
 - b. Aimer, with a T.T. pistol and two hand grenades;
 - c. Assistant aimer, with a Vintovka short rifle with 60 rounds of ammunition and two hand grenades;
 - d. Cartridge belt carrier, with a Vintovka short rifle and 60 rounds of ammunition and two hand grenades; and
 - e. Muleteer, with a Vintovka short rifle and 60 rounds of ammunition and two hand grenades.

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Members of the unit were forbidden to talk to civilians.

Miscellaneous Military Information

7. A "Katyusha" Rocket Regiment is located in Sofia. The rocket launchers are mounted on trucks.
8. An infantry unit [redacted] is located in Kharmanli. In 1952, there was a training school for the junior sergeants (mladshi serzhanti) attached to this unit.
9. [redacted] the location for the following military units:
- a. An unidentified artillery regiment in Plovdiv;
 - b. An unidentified artillery regiment in Stara Zagora; and
 - c.. An unidentified armored unit at Sliven.
10. In September 1952, at the time of the Gamma Islet incident, the following units took up defensive positions around the village of General Toshevo (N 42-13, E 26-17), Svilengrad Okoliya:
- a. An unidentified infantry unit [redacted] Lyubimets;
 - b. An unidentified infantry unit [redacted] Kharmanli;

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- c. An unidentified artillery regiment, Plovdiv;
- d. An unidentified artillery regiment, Stara Zagora; and
- e. An unidentified armored unit at Sliven.

 the units were ordered not to open fire, even if attacked, until Vulko Chervenkov gave the order.

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- 11. All other military units south of the Balkan Mountains were alerted at the time of the Gamma Islet incident.



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