

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ 50

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
TOPIC	Artillery Regiment Weissenfels of the KVP Division in Halle		25X1A
	25X1A		
EVALUATION	[REDACTED]	PLACE OBTAINED	[REDACTED]
DATE OF CONTENT	25 September to 3 October 1953		25X1A
DATE OBTAINED	[REDACTED]	DATE PREPARED	5 January 1954
REFERENCES	25X1A		
PAGES	1	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

SOURCE [REDACTED] 25X1X

1. The B-Kommando (artillery regiment) in Weissenfels is subordinate to KVP Bereitschaft Halle and is stationed at the barracks installation located at the town perimeter of Weissenfels, about 800 meters distant from the Soviet barracks installation. The installation involved also quartered an A-Kommando of Bereitschaft Halle.¹
2. The B-Kommando consisted of a headquarters with about 10 officers and 3 Abteilungen with about 10 officers, 15 NCOs and 40 EM to each Abteilung. Each Abteilung was organized into 1 headquarters company and 3 companies which were scheduled to be brought to full strength by late 1953. The EM serving with the unit during the reporting period were being trained as NCOs.²
3. The commanding officer of the B-Kommando was Major or Lieutenant Colonel Eckard (fnu). The unit was equipped with 12 x 122-mm howitzers. The 24 x 76.2-mm guns for the 1st and 2d Abteilungen were scheduled to be delivered from Zittau in the near future. No motor vehicles were available. Prime movers for the guns were expected to arrive soon.³
4. The unit had been organized from a cadre of officers and personnel made available by the B-Kommando in Zittau. Source learned that the KVP installation at Baerenstein was vacated in April 1953; the A Unit moved to Marienberg, while the SBA transferred to Zittau. Since recently, another B Unit has allegedly again been stationed at Baerenstein.⁴

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. This information agrees with previous information on the presence, in Weissenfels, of an infantry and an artillery regiment of the Infantry Division Halle, which was activated in September 1953.
- 25X1A 2. [REDACTED] Comment. The artillery units of TV 24 in Leipzig received most of their personnel from the former artillery instruction regiments in Zittau, Erfurt and Gloewen.
- 25X1A 3. [REDACTED] Comment. The weapons equipment mentioned agrees with the standard equipment of an artillery regiment of a KVP Infantry Bereitschaft.
- 25X1A 4. [REDACTED] Comment. So far no other information has been received on the reoccupation of KVP installations at Baerenstein and Niederschlag. There is a possibility that the artillery Abteilung of the mechanized regiment in Marienberg will move to one of the installations involved.

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