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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany REF OR:

TOPIC Military Information from Gera

25X1 EVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  25X1

25X1 DATE OF CONTENT

25X1 DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 1 February 1954

REFERENCES \_\_\_\_\_

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_  
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25X1 1. On 10 January 1954, the Reuss Kaserne in Gera was occupied to capacity by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Between 4 and 10 January, about 180 to 250 soldiers received close-order drill in the barracks yard. No training was conducted with the AT guns parked in the garages.

25X1 2. On 10 January, the Panzer Kaserne in Gera-Tinz was still occupied by about 150 to 200 troops. On several days between 4 and 10 January, soldiers received armored-engineer training.

25X1 3. On 4 January, the Reuss Kaserne was still occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery or motor transport insignia. On 3 January, soldiers trained with 6 guns of about 76 mm or practiced driving with track-laying vehicles in the area along the Gera-Borna road. Trucks  were parked in the road along the training area. Two signal sections, each of about 20 men carrying signal equipment, marched along the Gera-Borna road. Another signal section entered the Reuss Kaserne.

25X1 4. On 8 January, the Reuss Kaserne was occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia or motor transport insignia. From 250 to 300 soldiers received close-order drill. At about 3 p.m., 5 prime movers and 4 trucks towing 5 x 100-mm AT guns and carrying about 180 soldiers entered the installation.

25X1 5. On 8 January, the Panzer Kaserne in Gera-Tinz quartered troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 180 soldiers engaged in excavation work or trained with hand grenades near the installation.

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7. On 12 January, the Reuss Kaserne was still occupied as had previously been observed. On 30 December, 2 prime movers, each towing a 100-mm AT gun and carrying 10 soldiers were seen in the barracks yard. The guns were subsequently emplaced. About 70 soldiers received close-order drill. On 9 January, about 60 soldiers received gun drill with 4 x 100-mm AT guns and 2 x 120-mm field howitzers in the barracks yard. On 11 January, 4 prime movers, each towing a 122-mm field howitzer, and 2 trucks, each carrying about 35 men left the installation toward Langenberg. At about 1 p.m., 2 prime movers, each towing a 100-mm AT gun entered the installation, coming from the direction of Hainberg. On 12 January, 3 prime movers, each towing a 100-mm AT gun and 2 trucks entered the installation, coming from the direction of Langenberg.

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8. On 12 January, the Panzer Kaserne in Tinz quartered about 300 to 350 men. Between 28 December 1953 and 12 January 1954, about 60 soldiers daily received basic training with carbines in the barracks area. No vehicular traffic was noticed. 1

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9. Not less than 6 x 100-mm AT guns were parked in roofed sheds, with only the barrels protruding from loopholes, pointing toward north. A dummy village was established a distance of 750 to 1,000 meters from the guns. Uniformed women were also seen in the emplacement. On 7 January, about 120 soldiers engaged in field training in the training area on Hainberg hill. They returned to the Reuss Kaserne at about 4 p.m. 3

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1. [Redacted]

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2. Comment. [Redacted] 578th AT Arty Regt of the 308th Arty Brig (US) in Gera until 10 November 1953.

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3. Comment. These observations refer to the garrison training grounds west of Tinz which [Redacted] has apparently been enlarged in the fall of 1953. The installations described above probably serve for AT gun firing with mounted rifle barrels.

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