

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CO. NO.

25X1

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR 28 September 1954

SUBJECT 1. Rail Shipments of Guns
2. Railroad Construction

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 25X1
(LISTED BELOW)

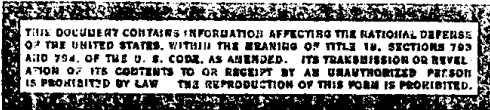
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DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 1. On 1 and 2 June 1954, 8 Polish trains each loaded with 40 to 45 artillery pieces of 120 to 150-mm caliber and signal equipment were seen between Poznan (Poznan) and Lowica. A Polish railroadman stated that these trains, which arrived from the direction of Skierniewice, were to proceed via Lissa (Leszno) to Silosia. Four Soviet trains each loaded with 42 artillery pieces of what appeared to be 76 mm caliber were seen proceeding toward Brest Litovsk. On 1 and 2 June, another 5 Soviet trains each loaded with 36 to 40 artillery pieces of about 150 mm caliber were observed bound for Frankfurt/Oder. 25X1
shipments were observed at an increased rate recently. Artillery pieces of a lighter caliber have been shipped to the USSR while guns of a heavier caliber were observed proceeding toward East Germany.
- 2. On 10 June 1954, a train consisting of 82 axles left Frankfurt/Oder toward Brest Litovsk. Since the load of the train exceeded standard measurements, it was directed via Plock, Ostroleka, Siedlce, and Czeremcha. Between Posen and Lowicz, 13 Polish trains proceeding toward the west, each loaded with 40 to 45 artillery pieces with a caliber of 120 to 150 mm were seen. The trains were, reportedly, ordered to proceed via Lissa. A total of 7 Soviet trains loaded with artillery pieces of about 152-mm caliber were seen proceeding toward Frankfurt/Oder. Of these, 2 were observed at Wysokie-Litevsk, 2 at Czeremcha, 1 at Sochaczew and 2 in Siedlce. An ammunition train from Brest-Litovsk arrived in Frankfurt/Oder on 20 June 1954.¹
- 3. 25X1
the Skierniewice-Lukow railroad line was completed single-track (sic). The line was not yet in operation because its substructure was liable to sag in the boggy area of the Vistula River. Work was under way to eliminate the defect.²
- 4. 25X1
a spur track branching off from the railroad line at a point about 15 km west of Strzalkowo, 68 km east of Posen, led to a newly constructed airfield.³ Another spur track observed about 3 km east of Murzasz, allegedly, led to an ammunition dump.⁴
- 5. Three new loading ramps were under construction at Malaszewice.
- 6. 25X1
Comment. On 13 June 1954, artillery pieces of a medium caliber were observed passing through Frankfurt/Oder in a westerly direction.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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The present report indicates that these gun shipments were connected with a major gun replacement program for Soviet units and/or ordnance depots in the GDR and Silesia. The numbers of trains mentioned appear to be unusually high; for this reason the correctness of this information is doubted, in particular regarding the shipments to Silesia.

2. Current. The construction of a railroad bypass south of Warsaw was known previously.

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3. Current. The spur track branches off from the Posen-Warsaw railroad line about 55 railroad km east of Posen. The information may be correct, although the existence of an airfield in the area involved is unknown.

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4. Current. Murska is on the Siedlce-Czeranoha railroad line, 19 km south of Czeranoha. The information that an ammunition dump is located in this area is received for the first time.

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