

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S.OFFCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Finow Airfield

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

640792

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 9 June 1954

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REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. During April 1954, air activity observed at Finow airfield included individual flights, formation flights and attacks at towed sleeve targets by MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s during daytime and flights by aircraft involving searchlights during some nights. The alert flight consisted of 5 MiG-15s on 8 April and of 4 MiG-15s on 21 April. The aircraft stationed at the field could not be counted but were estimated at 50 to 60. Source had the impression that the number of aircraft was decreased on 10 April.¹ 25X1
 2. On 8 April, work was under way on shrapnelproof aircraft revetments in the southeastern and northeastern sections of the field. Additional such revetments were apparently planned for the northeastern section.² 25X1
 3. On 21 April, 6 x 37-mm AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field. These guns were used for aiming practices. A radar set,³ possibly of model AA 4 MK 3, was observed north of the AA gun emplacement.
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5. Between 21 and 27 April, air activity by MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s was repeatedly observed in Freienwalde area. After nightfall on 23 April, MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s flew in the beams of several searchlights between Finow and Freienwalde. The sound of aircraft weapons was repeatedly heard. During the night of 27/28 April, there was air activity. 25X1
 6. On 24 April, 38 MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s, 7 Yak-11s, and 1 high-wing monoplane were counted at the field and an additional 20 MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were stationed there. Between 10 and 14 May, there was intensive air activity, including high-altitude flights by individual aircraft and formations of 3 and 4 aircraft.
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- 2 -



7. [redacted] about 10:30 p.m. on 23 April, a MiG-15 crashed over Lichterfelde, about 6 km north of Finow. Allegedly, several houses were damaged and the pilot had parachuted. On that date, night flights had been conducted by MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s which fired at sleeve targets towed by other jet fighters of the same type, while searchlights were in operation. 25X1

8. At the end of April, [redacted] two new barracks installations amounting to 700,000 eastmarks were scheduled to be built at the field by the fall of 1954.4

9. During the second half of April, a MiG-15 or U-MiG-15 crashed and burnt in the village of Lichterfelde. The aircraft had been engaged in firing practices conducted over Finow airfield. 25X1

[redacted] 10. Between 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. on 6 May, no air activity was conducted at the field. [redacted]

[redacted] Comment. Finow airfield is believed to be still occupied by a fighter division headquarters and 2 fighter regiments equipped with a total of about 60 MiG-15s. The aircraft numbers observed belong to Finow airfield. The MiG-15 which reportedly crashed on 23 April was apparently hit during firing practices at towed sleeve targets.

[redacted] Comment. It is believed that about 30 shrapnelproof aircraft revetments exist at Finow airfield. Since the field is occupied by 2 regiments, it appears probable that additional revetments will be built. 25X1

[redacted] Comment. The AA gun emplacement has been reported several times. This is the first information on the presence of a radar set of an unidentified type near the AA gun emplacement. 25X1

[redacted] Comment. The information on the construction of two new barracks installations, though received for the first time, is believed credible. 25X1



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