

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONFIDENTIAL - U.S. OFF

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Finow Airfield

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 640792

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 9 June 19 4 25X1

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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 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. 25X1

2. On 8 April work was under way on shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments in the southeastern and northern sections of the field. Additional such revetments were apparently planned for the northeastern section.

3. On 21 April 37-mm AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field. These guns were used for firing practices. A radar set, possibly of model AA 4 MK 3, was observed north of the AA gun emplacement.

4. 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.

5. 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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about 10:30 p.m. on 23 April, a MiG-15 crashed over Lichterfelde, about 6 km north of Finow. All nearby ground houses were damaged and the pilot was parachuted. By that date, night flights had been conducted by MiG-15s and U-2G-15s over Finow. The aircraft have targeted towed by other jet fighters of the same type. No night flights were an operation.

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At the end of April, [redacted] new barracks installations amounting to 200,000 sq meters are planned to be built at the field by the fall of 1954.

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9. During the second half of April, a MiG-15 or U-2G-15 crashed and burnt in the village of Lichterfelde. The aircraft had been engaged in firing practices conducted over Finow airfield.



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

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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.

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Comment. It is believed that about 30 sharpshooters are stationed at Finow airfield. Since the field is occupied by 2 regiments, it appears probable that additional regiments will be built.

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Comment. The AA gun emplacement has been reported several times. This is the first information on the presence of a new set of unknown type near the AA gun emplacement.

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Comment. The information on the construction of the new barracks installations, though received for the first time, is believed credible.

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