

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	17th Infantry Regiment in Gorzow	DATE DISTR.	11 October 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The 17th Infantry Regiment located in Gorzow (Landsberg), J.W. 2635, was motorized in 1951-52. [REDACTED] the regiment's strength was about 2,500. The regiment was comprised of the following units:
 - a. Several infantry battalions
 - b. 2 battalions armed with light machine guns of Soviet make.
 - c. 1 battalion of heavy machine guns of Soviet make.
 - d. 1 battalion of light mortars (German type).
 - e. 1 battalion of heavy mortars (German and Soviet type).
 - f. 1 transport battalion
 - g. 1 company of self-propelled guns (German type)
 - h. 1 AA company
 - i. 1 anti-chemical warfare company
 - j. 3 signal companies
2. The barracks were on the eastern border of Gorzow on the southern side of the highway leading into the town. Parallel to this highway and about 1,500 to 2,000 meters from the road flows the river Warta. The barracks area is a square with one side about 300 meters long.
3. About 80 percent of the men were recruits inducted in 1952. The remaining 20 percent were soldiers serving their second year of national service; they were instructors and noncommissioned officers. The whole regiment had about 100 officers; the majority of them were about 30 years old. The officers were not professionally competent.
4. Soldiers had two kinds of uniforms: the work uniform, made of cotton, and the drill uniform, which was at the same time their dress uniform, made of woolen material. Both uniforms were worn out. Other parts of equipment, such as gas masks, were either of Soviet or German origin. The trucks were Polish-made Star 120's which were manufactured in Warsaw and Lublin. There were also several old Soviet vehicles, three American jeeps, and a large number of German motorcycles.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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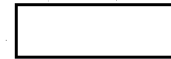
5. The soldiers received seven zlotys and about 100 grams of tobacco per month. The normal military service lasted 37 months. Soldiers who had attended NCO school or had some other special training had to serve several additional months. The majority of the soldiers complained of poor food. The morale was very low; soldiers waited for the day they would be released from service.
6. The regiment had its own NCO school where all the NCOs with exception of signalmen were trained.
7. The men had to attend three hours of political education each day. The first month they were taught the military oath which they had to take at the end of the month. Then followed the lectures on the Soviet peace movement, the Five-Year Plan, life stories of the famous Communist leaders, etc. Those soldiers who showed an intelligent interest in the political education were allowed to leave the barracks as a reward.



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Legend:

1. Three-meters-high wall of barbed wire.
2. Main entrance and a wooden guard post.
3. to 15. Unknown (one page of the original report was missing).
16. Garage. Brick built, 45 by 10 with an annex 20 by 10 meters.
17. Garages. Brick built, 20 by 14, 8 by 6, and 18 by 8 meters.
18. Pigsty.
19. Underground fuel depot.
20. Gymnastic hall. Single story, 30 by 8 meters.
21. Billets. Three stories.
22. Several farm buildings occupied by the military.
23. A row of officers' houses.

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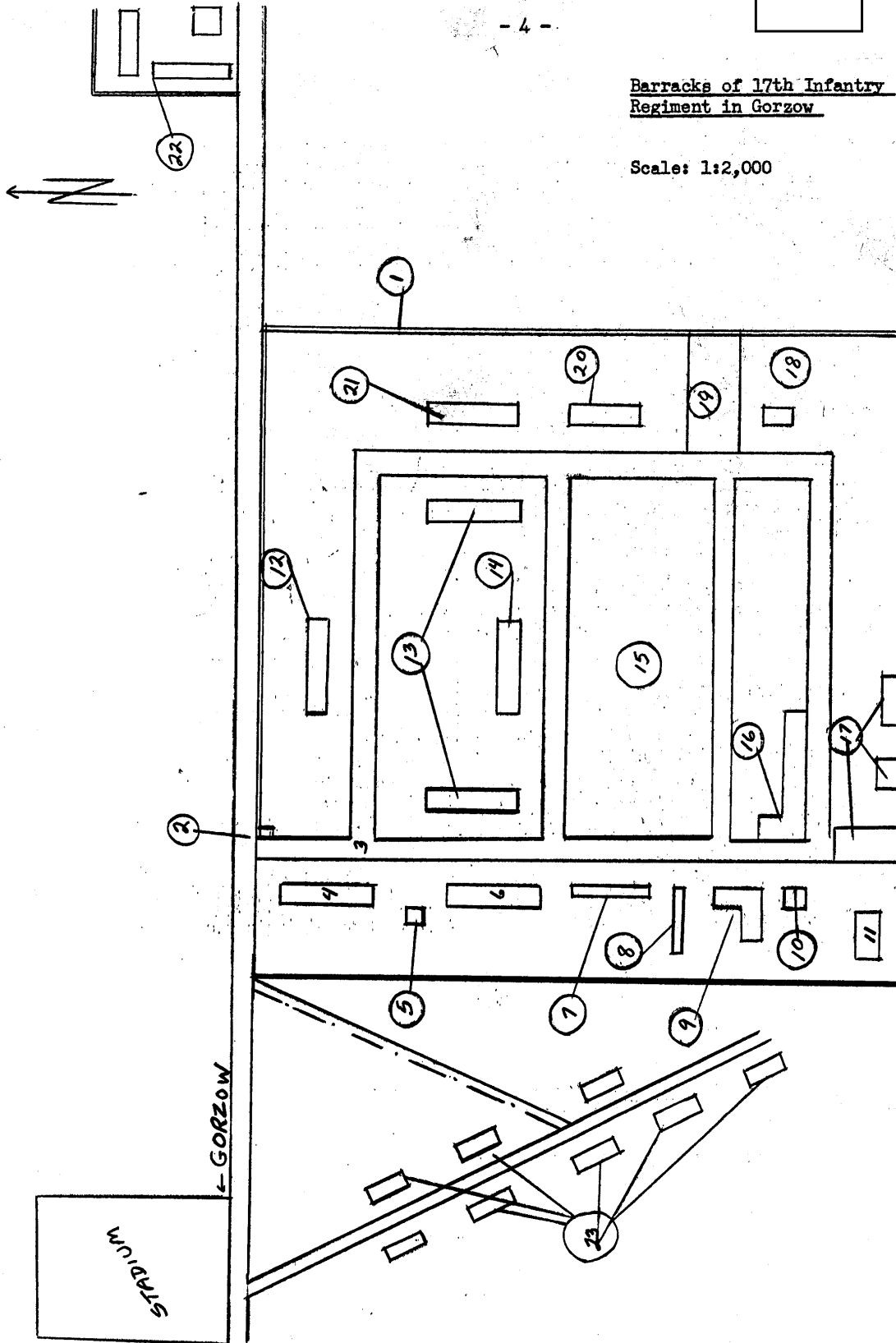
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Barracks of 17th Infantry Regiment in Gorzow

Scale: 1:2,000



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