

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Armament Supply for the KVP

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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course in July 1954, 20 KVP of the company belonged to VP-See. The students have to pass a final examination by Lieutenant Colonel Boerner (fnu), representing the administration of the special section of ordnance supply, by the party secretary of the cadre unit of the central repair shop (ZW), and by section chiefs of the ZW. Armorer-artificer officials graduated from these courses are similar to those of the former German Army.

2. KVP ordnance officers similar to the technical officers of the former German Army were trained at a school in Pirna which, although planned as a technical college, is still below standard because of a shortage of skilled instructors. Only short-term courses for ordnance officer candidates are being held at Doberlug.

3. No rocket launchers, recoilless AT guns, machine guns of a modern type, or Panzerfaust series were observed at the ZW. It is believed that the central ordnance depot (ZGL) does not store such weapons. In late July, a total of 14 x 37-mm AA guns was seen at the ZW and ZGL.

4. Only small arms were adjusted at Doberlug. A firing range for mortars and artillery pieces will be constructed in the near future.

5. Boerner (fnu), who was recently promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel, is deputy of General and chief of the repair shop section. Boerner is also responsible for repair plants, such as the VEB at Mittenwalde and an additional plant at 12 Gartenauer Strasse in Chemnitz which manufactures springs for machine guns and submachine guns

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6. Except for small quantities manufactured at Doberlug, most of the spare parts for the ZW are supplied by the VEB Mittenwalde via the ZGL. The present deliveries include spare parts for small arms, except for bolts and barrels. Since no spare parts for heavy weapons are being supplied, artillery pieces have to be cannibalized in order to obtain parts for the repair of others. Repair work is also done at Mittenwalde. Most of the repairs, however, were deficient and led to complaints. On 7 July, 74 bipods for light and medium mortars were delivered to the ZW from Mittenwalde. The bipods

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the 74 bipods had been done at Doberlug, it would have taken a total of 666 hours. The VEP Mittenwalde which has a Captain Meier (fmu) as director, placed orders to factories at Suhl and Chemnitz. 200 wooden stocks for submachine guns arrived at the ZW from Suhl in mid-July.

- 7. In July, the monthly capacity of the ZW was three times as high as that of December 1953. At present, 1,200 Soviet submachine guns are to be overhauled and, by late July, to be issued to KVP units employed along the zonal border in exchange for carbines. The Zeiss Plant in Jena was ordered to develop spare lenses for Soviet optical instruments. The lenses were to be delivered in late 1954. Dr Berg (fmu) of the Zeiss Plant in Jena was in charge of the technical work.

[redacted]

- 8. On 16 July, the observations indicated no change in the number of artillery pieces and in the occupation of the KVP central ordnance depot near Doberlug-Kirchhain as compared to June.

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CLASSIFICATION		CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL	
COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
TOPIC	Observations Made in the Ostrava (Machrisch Ostrau) Air Space		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	24 August 1954
REFERENCES			
PAGES	1	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information		

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1. In September 1953, air activity over the Hrabuvka (49°47' N/18°16' E) airfield east of the Bielan woods by 2 to 3 twin-engine transport aircraft at altitudes of 800 to 1,000 meters was observed from Kuncice (49°48' N/18°17' E) south of Ostrava (Machrisch Ostrau) at a distance of about 2,000 meters. Fifteen to 20 soldiers were seen parachuting from each of the aircraft which subsequently flew some loops, landed and took off again for more parachuting practices. This air activity took place only in favorable weather in the afternoons. Only white parachutes were used. Firing practices, bombing or the dropping of equipment were never seen.
2. Three to four times weekly, single-engine piston-engine aircraft made local flights at altitudes of 300 to 400 meters.
3. Between September and late November 1953, single jet aircraft with considerably swept-back wings practiced flying at altitudes of 500 to 600 meters in the Ostrava air space. The aircraft, which were all of the same type, usually flew individually and occasionally in formations of two and three. The aircraft were apparently not stationed at Hrabuvka airfield.

Comment. The observations made apparently concerned air activity at Hrabuvka airfield. The field is mainly used for commercial flying, but in addition is also used for pre-military training. Parachuting was previously observed here but only in connection with Air Force Day in September 1953. The jet fighters observed in the Ostrava (Machrisch Ostrau) air space probably came from Prerov airfield where an air unit equipped with jet aircraft is assumed to be stationed.

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