

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Fall Exercises of the Reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps.EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 12 October 1954 25X1REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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1. At 1700 on 24 September 1954, 2 x 76.2-mm AT guns, 3 x 120-mm mortars and 10 trucks with 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets left the Adolf Hitler Kaserne in Schwerin and went toward the freight station.

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2. Between noon and 1700 on 25 September, 20 x 100-mm AT guns with prime movers
7 x 122-mm field howitzers and approximately 30 trucks with approximately 400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia left the Krueger Kaserne in Schwerin for the freight station.

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3. Soldiers and materiel from the Fliegerhorst Kaserne in Hagenow entrained at the Hagenow-Land railroad station, included: 4 x 57-mm AT guns, 6 x 160-mm mortars, 3 field kitchens and 50 trucks with soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets on 25 September; and 9 x 85-mm AT guns, 3 field kitchens and 52 trucks with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets on 26 September.¹

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4. After 1700 on 25 September and after 1900 on 26 September, several columns passed through Perleberg. They came from the direction of Ludwigslust, proceeded toward Pritzwalk and consisted of the following vehicles and weapons: 71 x 37-mm AA guns, 35 x 85-mm AA guns, 40 x 57-mm AT guns, 42 x 85-mm AT guns, 26 field howitzers, 12 x 120-mm mortars, 12 searchlights, 17 tank trucks, radio trucks and field kitchens and approximately 310 other trucks, most of which were occupied by soldiers.

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5. On 26 September, loadings began at the Wittstock railroad station. All trains seen went toward Pritzwalk.
6. In late September, the Wittstock training grounds had apparently not yet been completely vacated. Several loadings were observed prior to 27 September.
7. At 1100 on 26 September, the following units from the Delius Kaserne (2289) in Potsdam were entrained:

Wildpark railroad station: 17 x 122-mm field guns, 17 Z-65 prime movers, 1 YA-12 prime mover, approximately 20 trucks and 200 to 300 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

Potsdam railroad station: 20 x 122-mm field guns, 22 Z-65 prime movers, about 15 trucks and approximately 400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Loadings were completed at about 1500.⁴

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8. On 27 September, an increased number of traffic control posts and signboards marking the area as restricted were observed in the Burg-Tangornuende training area, particularly west of the Elbe River near Rogastz, on the road to Mahlwinkel and the branch-off to Angern, on the road to Brist and east of the Elbe River, at the Fuernorgeanstalt north of Burg and on the Burg-Magdeburg road, at the branch-off to Detershagen and the autobahn entrance at Schermen. Many motor vehicles were assembled in the wood patches south of Mahlwinkel, west of the Elbe River, and south of the Ihleburg-Parchau road, east of the Elbe River. A command post was presumably located near Kobbel, 6 km southeast of Tangerhuetten. Sedan was seen nearby. The Weissenharthe Forest, northeast of Tangerhuetten, was not occupied by Soviet troops.

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1. Comment. Units of the 286th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, the 283d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt and the 132d How Arty Regt of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, and major elements of the 4th Gds Arty Brig of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps were entrained. these shipments went to the Wiesenburger-Belzig-Brueck area, where the reinforced corps assembled for fall exercises.

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2. the units probably belonged to the IX Mtz Rifle Corps and it is assumed that Major units of the corps had been observed in Magdeburg en route toward the east between 1850 and midnight on 25 September. The columns may have been identical. For information on the assembly area of these units, see Comment 5.

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3. Comment. According to other information, major elements of the 18th Mecz Div transferred to the Wiesenburger-Belzig-Brueck area on 25 and 26 September.

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4. Comment. The units on the trains belonged to the 34th Arty Div and moved from Potsdam to the above-mentioned assembly area of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps in 4 shipments.

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5. The units which were assembled in the Burg-Genthin-Tangerhuetten area may have been elements of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps which were to represent the enemy force in exercises of the division and had probably moved there by road. See Paragraph 4.

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6. Comment. Summarizing this and previous observations, the following information is available on the exercises of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps:

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The bulk of the corps, reinforced by elements of the 34th Arty Div from Potsdam assembled in the Wiesenburger-Beitz-Bruck area. In connection with this movement, more than 40 shipments were observed between 25 and 27 September. Elements of the 3d Gds AT Arty Brig, and probably elements of the 25th Gds RL Brig joined this group which advanced by road. Shipments from Vinzelberg southwest of Stendal tend to indicate that army units of the Third Shock Army also participated. The preparation of a fuel supply base in Stuelper Forst east of Justerbog between 12 and 22 September furnished the first indication of the possible direction of attack. The observation of an enemy group in the Burg-Genthin-Tangerhuetten area suggests that the exercise will develop in a northwesterly direction. This assumption is supported by the observation in the Ferchland-Guesen-Jerichow area of engineer units of the U/1 engr regt of the GSFG, the 88th Engr Regt (?) of the Second Gds Mecz Army, the U/1 engr bn of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps and the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, which have been assembled there since mid-September. The assembling of these engineer units indicated that special stress will be laid on the crossing of the Elbe river during the exercises.

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