

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

East Germany

REPORT

Military Activity in the High Gds Army Area

25X1

25X1

PLACE CONTAINED

25X1

24 November 1954

25X1

5

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Between 22 October and 2 November 1954, the camps of the Kindel training grounds were only lightly occupied. No exercises or firing practices were held. On 23 October, 3 trucks, each occupied by 15 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were seen on Highway No 84 en route toward Kindel.
 [redacted] No motor vehicles went from Kindel to Eisenach-Soptisbade. 1
2. On 22 October, the barracks installation east of Leipziger Strasse (8002) in Altenburg was occupied by approximately 800 soldiers and, on 29 October, by approximately 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 23 October, a tractor towing a 152-mm howitzer entered the installation.
 [redacted]
3. On 29 October, the barracks installation west of Leipziger Strasse (8001) in Altenburg was occupied by an estimated 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and motor transport insignia. On 22, 23 and 30 October, heavy tractors towing 152-mm howitzers were repeatedly seen in the barracks area.
 [redacted] 2
4. Between 25 October and 3 November, the barracks installation west of Leipziger Strasse in Altenburg was occupied to capacity by the artillery unit previously observed there. On 26 October, 2 x 152-mm gun howitzers were seen in front of the sheds. On 1 November, 10 to 12 x 152-mm gun howitzers were seen.
 [redacted]
5. Between 25 October and 3 November, the installation east of Leipziger Strasse was occupied by an estimated 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The soldiers belonged to

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the AT unit which had previously been observed there.
On 28 October and 2 November, 3 AT guns, presumably of 57-mm,
 were seen in the barracks yard. [redacted]

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[redacted] 6. Between 18 and 30 October, the Prinz-Louis-Ferdinand Kaserne (8481) in Saalfeld was occupied by approximately 500 soldiers including approximately 200 soldiers wearing black-bordered black and blue-bordered black epaulets, and 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets. The motor vehicle sheds were occupied to capacity by trucks and M-13 rocket launchers. On 22 and 28 October, 3 trucks with pontoons were seen. On 22 October, an undetermined number of soldiers practiced construction of field fortifications, attack against trenches and firing in the Unterwirbach training area. The unit, which numbered approximately 350 soldiers, appeared to be very well disciplined. 3

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7. On 21 and 29 October, the Prinz-Eugen Kaserne (8462) in Rudolstadt was occupied by an estimated 250 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 21 October, 9 guns were seen in the AAA emplacement in front of the installation and 6 x 76.2-mm guns were seen there on 29 October. A total of 30 x 76.2-mm AA guns was believed to be stationed in the installation. 4

8. On 21 and 29 October, the Flak Kaserne (8461) in Rudolstadt was occupied by an estimated 300 soldiers wearing black-bordered black, red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets. 4

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9. Between 25 October and 3 November, the Prinz-Eugen Kaserne in Rudolstadt was occupied by approximately 600 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery and signal insignia. The installation was fully lighted at dusk. On 26 October, the 6 x 85-mm AA guns previously seen in the emplacement in front of the installation had been removed. On 30 October, the guns were again seen in the emplacement. On 27 and 29 October, reports of guns were heard from the direction of Saalfeld. 4

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10. Between 25 October and 3 November, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by 900 to 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black, blue-bordered black, red and black-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and signal insignia. 4

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11. Between 25 October and 3 November, the former revenue office (8463) was occupied by 400 to 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia. 4

12. Between 25 October and 1 November the Hindenburg Kaserne (8442) in Plauen was occupied by approximately 2,000 soldiers wearing black-bordered red and red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted]

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13. Between 25 October and 1 November, Koenig-Georg Kaserne (8443) was occupied by approximately 1,500 soldiers. [redacted]

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[REDACTED]

14. Between 25 October and 1 November, the Kirchbach Kaserne (8441) was occupied by approximately 300 soldiers, most of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets and a few blue-bordered black epaulets.

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15. Between 27 October and 2 November, the barracks installation (8142) in Jera-Tinz appeared to be occupied as previously.

16. Between 27 October and 2 November, the Reuss Kaserne (8141) in Jera was occupied by approximately 2,500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. YA-12 prime movers were being serviced near the motor vehicle sheds. [REDACTED]

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17. Military shipments unloaded at the Saalebahnhof in Jena included

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21 October. At 2200, 13 SP guns including Nos B 300 and B 324, 8 to 10 boxcarloads of soldiers, 12 to 15 trucks, which left toward the barracks installation in Loebstedt (8222) or Zwaeetzen (8221).

22 October. At 1500, 25 to 30 trucks [REDACTED] 10 boxcarloads of soldiers, 10 to 12 guns possibly 57-mm AT guns and 2 guns presumably of 76-mm, which left in the above-mentioned direction.

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18. On 22 October, 13 SP guns including Nos B 315 and B 116 and approximately 20 JS-2 or JS-3 tanks [REDACTED] were seen in the Zwaeetzen kaserne.

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19. On 23 October, a train with 25 to 30 trucks, 12 boxcarloads of soldiers and approximately 20 guns, presumably AA guns, was seen at the Grossheringen railroad station southwest of Joesen. The train was headed southward. [REDACTED] 6

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20. Between 24 and 31 October the Infanterie Kaserne east of Friedensstrasse (8541) in Zeitz was occupied by approximately 850 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. The latter were presumably recruits. At 0700 on 25 October, approximately 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets had fallen in for a roll call. [REDACTED]

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21. Between 24 and 31 October, The barracks installation west of Friedensstrasse (8542) in Zeitz was occupied by an estimated 650 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including 325 soldiers with tank insignia. On 26 October, [REDACTED]

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22. Between 24 October and 6 November, the Nachrichten Kaserne (8504) in Weimar was occupied as previously by approximately 500 soldiers wearing black bordered black epaulets. On 28 October, 15 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets unloaded wooden poles from truck [] On 4 November, 40 soldiers carrying signal equipment and wearing black-bordered black epaulets and an officer left the installation toward Weibicht. []
23. Between 24 October and 6 November, the Kohra Fliegerhorst (8401/02) was occupied by approximately 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets and a few wearing blue-bordered black epaulets. Eleven 85-mm AA guns were seen at the airfield and 4 x 85-mm AA guns were located near the former Erziehungsheim. 7
24. Between 28 October and 3 November, the Flak Kaserne (8321) in Merseburg was still occupied to capacity by approximately 2,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 3 November, a new shed was being constructed at the drill ground. []
- [] The vehicles were occupied by personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Approximately 45 trucks were seen in the barracks area and 35 to 40 trucks were seen at the drill ground near Rotthuegel. 7
1. [] Comment: [] the motor vehicles belonged to the 57th Gds Itz Rifle Div. According to previous reports, the bulk of this division returned to their posts prior to 19 October. 25X1
2. [] Comment: According to previous reports, elements of the 38th Army AT Brig participated in the exercise of the 20th Gds Mech Div. The departure of these elements from Altenburg on 15 October was definitely observed. The 43d Gds Army Arty Brig remained at the post. The return to Altenburg of elements of the 38th Army AT Brig was not observed. The increase of the occupation of the barracks installation east of Leipziger Strasse and other observations indicate, however, that all components of the brigade were back at the post in late October. []
3. [] Comment: The observations confirm the presence there of a rocket launcher unit and an engineer unit. The return of elements of the troops from exercises was observed on 22 October. []
- [] It is believed that the installation was occupied by more than 500 soldiers. 25X1
4. [] Comment: Between 20 and 28 October, elements of the 497th AA Regt may have been absent from the post for firing practices. The other installations in Rodelstadt appear to be occupied as previously. 25X1
5. [] Comment: The information indicates no changes in the occupation of the barracks installation in Gera. 25X1

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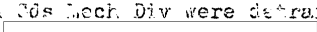
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6.  Comment. According to weapons and tank   elements of the 63th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt and the 56th Gds Mech Regt of the 20th Gds Mech Div were detained. Preceding unloadings were reported  The shipment observed in Grosswaringer may have involved elements of the 2504th Gds AAA Regt of the 20th Gds Mech Div from Jena.

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7.  Comment. The observations in Zeitz, Weimar and Merseburg do not indicate any changes in the occupation of the military installations there.

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

COUNTRY

TOPIC Military Activity in the Eighth Gds Army Area

TOPIC

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

24 November 1954

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REFERENCES

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PAGES 5

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. Between 22 October and 2 November 1954, the camps of the Kindel training grounds were only lightly occupied. No exercises or firing practices were held. On 23 October, 3 trucks, each occupied by 15 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were seen on Highway No 84 en route toward Kindel.
 [redacted] No motor vehicles went from Kindel to Eisenach-Sopnienbaur.
 1
2. On 22 October, the barracks installation east of Leipziger Strasse (8602) in Altenburg was occupied by approximately 800 soldiers and, on 29 October, by approximately 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 23 October, a tractor towing a 152-mm howitzer entered the installation.
 [redacted]
3. On 29 October, the barracks installation west of Leipziger Strasse (8001) in Altenburg was occupied by an estimated 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and motor transport insignia. On 22, 23 and 30 October, heavy tractors towing 152-mm howitzers were repeatedly seen in the barracks area.
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4. Between 25 October and 3 November, the barracks installation west of Leipziger Strasse in Altenburg was occupied to capacity by the artillery unit previously observed there. On 26 October, 2 x 152-mm gun howitzers were seen in front of the sheds. On 1 November, 10 to 12 x 152-mm gun howitzers were seen.
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5. Between 25 October and 3 November, the installation east of Leipziger Strasse was occupied by an estimated 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The soldiers belonged to

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15. Between 27 October and 2 November, the barracks installation (8142) in Gera-Tinz appeared to be occupied as previously.

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16. Between 27 October and 2 November, the Reuss Kaserne (8141) in Gera was occupied by approximately 2,500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. YA-12 prime movers were being serviced near the motor vehicle sheds.

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17. Military shipments unloaded at the Saalebahnhof in Jena included

21 October. At 2200, 11 SP guns including Nos B 300 and B 324, 8 to 10 boxcarloads of soldiers, 12 to 15 trucks, which left toward the barracks installation in Loebstedt (8222) or Zwaetzen (8221).

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22 October. At 1500, 25 to 30 trucks 10 boxcarloads of soldiers, 10 to 12 guns possibly 57-mm AT guns and 8 guns presumably of 76-mm, which left in the above-mentioned direction.

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18. On 22 October, 11 SP guns including Nos B 115 and B 116 and approximately 20 JS-2 or JS-3 tanks were seen in the Zwaetzen kaserne.

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19. On 23 October, a train with 25 to 30 trucks, 12 boxcarloads of soldiers and approximately 20 guns, presumably AA guns, was seen at the Grossheringen railroad station southwest of Koesen. The train was headed southward.

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20. Between 24 and 31 October, the Infanterie Kaserne east of Friedensstrasse (8541) in Zeitz was occupied by approximately 850 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. The latter were presumably recruits. At 0700 on 25 October, approximately 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets had fallen in for a roll call.

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[Redacted]

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were seen in the barracks yard.

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7. On 21 and 29 October, the Prinz-Eugen Kaserne (8462) in Rudolstadt was occupied by an estimated 250 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 21 October, 9 guns were seen in the AAA emplacement in front of the installation and 6 x 76.2-mm guns were seen there on 29 October. A total of 30 x 76.2-mm AA guns was believed to be stationed in the installation. 4

8. On 21 and 29 October, the Paak Kaserne (8461) in Rudolstadt was occupied by an estimated 300 soldiers wearing black-bordered black, red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets. 4

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1. [] Comment. [] the motor vehicles belonged to the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. According to previous reports, the bulk of this division returned to their posts prior to 19 October.
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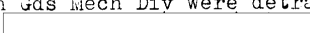

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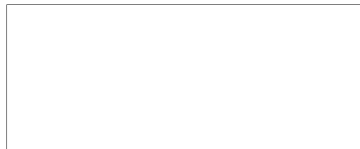
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Gds Mech Regt of the 20th Gds Mech Div were detained. Preceding 25X1
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observed in Grossheringen may have involved elements of the 2504th
Gds AAA Regt of the 20th Gds Mech Div from Jena.
7.  Comment. The observations in Zeitz, Weimar and Merseburg 25X1
do not indicate any changes in the occupation of the military
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