

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

East Germany

COUNTRY

REPORT

25X1

~~Military Activity in the Eberswalde, Briesen, and Templin Area~~~~Eberswalde, Briesen and Templin Area~~

EVALUATION

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8 December 1954

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 0800 on 25 November 1954, 6 motorbikes, 6 half-track vehicles, 3 T-34 tanks and, from 3 boxcars, approximately 80 soldiers were unloaded at the Eberswalde railroad station. 1
2. At 0840 on 25 November, several flatcars carrying 9 x 85-mm AT guns were seen on a siding at the Briesen railroad station north of Bernau. 2
3. At 1330 on 25 November, at least 6 x 100-mm AT guns were unloaded in Bernau and were shipped away on tank flatcars. 25X1
4. During the night of 24-25 November, 7 troop trains with trucks and guns reportedly came from the direction of Loewenberg and went toward Templin. 4
5. On 25 November, the installation in Dessau-Rosslau was occupied by 4,000 to 5,000 soldiers. Approximately 1,500 soldiers, mostly NCOs, with baggage had left since 10 November. During the same period, approximately 2,000 soldiers arrived. They included 65 to 70 percent NCOs, 23 to 25 years old, and 30 to 35 percent recruits, including some between 23 and 25 years of age.
6. On 24 November, the Pioneer Kaserne (4502) in Fuerstenwalde was occupied by approximately 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, signal and motor transport insignia.
7. On 24 November, the Kaserne on Braunsdorfer Strasse (4501) in Fuerstenwalde was occupied by approximately 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, signal and motor transport insignia. Recruits observed at the Fuerstenwalde post appeared to be very young. 5

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8. Between 1 and 18 November, the Flak Kaserne (2002) in Brandenburg was occupied almost to capacity. The 57-mm AT guns previously observed there were no longer seen. On and after 13 November, 24 x 85-mm AT guns were seen in front of the garages where the 57-mm guns had previously been stored. On this day, the guns were lined up in two rows and were being inspected.
9. At 1300 on 20 November, 26 x 57-mm AT guns from the Flak Kaserne were entrained at the Brandenburg-Altstadt railroad station by a loading detail wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. 6

1. [REDACTED] Comment. A loading of pontoons on full-track vehicles has been reported for the first time in the Soviet Zone. The composition of the shipment tends to indicate that an assault engineer unit was involved. Special units of this type have not been observed in the area of the Fourth Gds Mech Army until the present time. They were observed only with the engineer regiment of the GSG in Bernburg and the corps engineer units. 25X1

2. [REDACTED] Comment. This may be the shipment which was unloaded in Bernau at 1330 on 25 November. See [REDACTED] Comment 3. 25X1

3. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] the materiel was bound for the 71st Light Arty Brig of the Fourth Gds Mech Army. 25X1

4. [REDACTED] Comment. The trains may have run in connection with the previously reported equipment exchange program. 25X1

5. [REDACTED] Comment. The varying information on the age of the recruits creates the impression that members of older classes, who had been rejected previously, were also inducted. The percentage of non commissioned officers among the newly arrived personnel is unusually high, possibly because soldiers of two classes were discharged in the Soviet Zone during the fall. 25X1

6. [REDACTED] Comment. In early November, guns from the USSR, predominantly 152-mm howitzers and 152-mm gun howitzers were shipped to the Soviet Zone. These shipments may have also included 85-mm AT guns. The 20th Army AT Arty Brig has so far been believed to be equipped with individual 57-mm AT guns. It is possible that these guns were exchanged for 85-mm AT guns. In this connection, it is noted that the heavy regiment of the brigade stationed in the Flak Kaserne (5262) in Magdeburg, which was previously equipped with 24 x 100-mm AT guns, had been observed with 24 x 85-mm AT guns since November. 25X1

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