

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DSCR

20 April 1955

SUBJECT

Military Activity in the Area of the Second Guards Mechanized Army

NO. OF PAGES

3

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

1. From 28 to 30 January 1955, a large exercise involving infantry and artillery (AT artillery, mortars, AAA) was held in the area of the Doeberitz field training grounds. In the course of the exercise, there was heavy artillery and mortar firing which began in the evening of 29 January and continued until the morning of 30 January. The following vehicles moved from the direction of Priort toward Karzower Forest from 1300 to 1320 on 28 January:

25X1

6 armored personnel carriers

25X1

1 armored personnel carrier with a 20-mm twin-carried AA gun

25X1

25X1

2 trucks with 2 x 57-mm AT guns

25X1

2 trucks towing 120-mm mortars

and truck

25X1

2. The following column was seen coming from a southerly direction in the afternoon on 29 January:

18 JS-1 or JS-2 tanks approximately 24 to 30 x 100-mm AT guns 12 field howitzers of 122 mm 12 field guns of 122 mm 8 radio trucks; and about 100 trucks carrying approximately 1,000 soldiers with field equipment.

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STATE	NAVY	/X	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION					
ARMY	AIR	/X	FBI						

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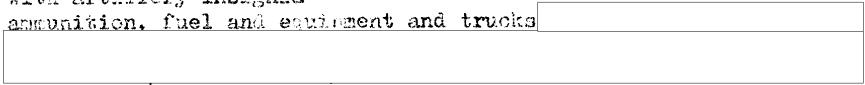


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The column entered the Doeberitz field training grounds near Fahrland. The units took up position in the southwestern part of the training grounds and remained in this area for three days engaging in night practices only. Heavy artillery and machine gun firing was heard during the nights concerned. In the morning of 1 February, the entire area was cleared of troops.

- 3. During the night of 28 January, unusually heavy artillery firing which even frightened the residents of the neighboring villages was heard from the direction of Doeberitz training grounds. Firing lasted from 2400 until 0500. Since 12 x 152-mm field howitzers and about 20 trucks with approximately 120 soldiers with field equipment left Olympisches Dorf (2067) for the training grounds on 27 January and returned at about 1000 on 29 January, it appeared that elements of the artillery brigade from Olympisches Dorf were also involved in the practices. 1
- 4. After 0500 on 2 February, the following elements of the artillery brigade from Olympisches Dorf were entrained at Dallgow-Doeberitz railroad station:


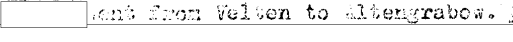
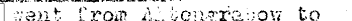
18 x 100-mm AT guns with 18 YA-12 prime movers
 approximately 15 x 152-mm field howitzers
 12 x 76-mm field guns
 approximately 120 trucks
 7 field kitchens
 and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia
 ammunition, fuel and equipment and trucks



25X1
25X1

During the entraining operation which was not yet completed at 1730, the railroad station was unusually heavily guarded by sentries. A rear detail of approximately 120 soldiers remained in the quarters of the brigade.

- 5. All elements of the artillery brigade which had been entrained on 2 February returned to Olympisches Dorf during the night of 3 February. 2

- 6. On 29/30 January, three trains   went from Velten to Altengrabow. On 3 February, three trains  went from Altengrabow to Velten. The latter trains carried 12 M-13 rocket launchers, 24 trucks and 2 field kitchens. 3

25X1
25X1
25X1

- 7. Eight new tanks with turtle-like turrets and three new tanks with onion-shaped turrets were parked in a shed of the Gentzrode training grounds north of Neuruppin from 17 to 20 January. From 2 to 4 February, these tanks came from the Friedrichs Reserve (2205) in Neuruppin to the training grounds for driving practices. During the period of the training, the roads were blocked by sentries. One of the tanks seen from a distance of 15 meters had the following shape and equipment:

25X1

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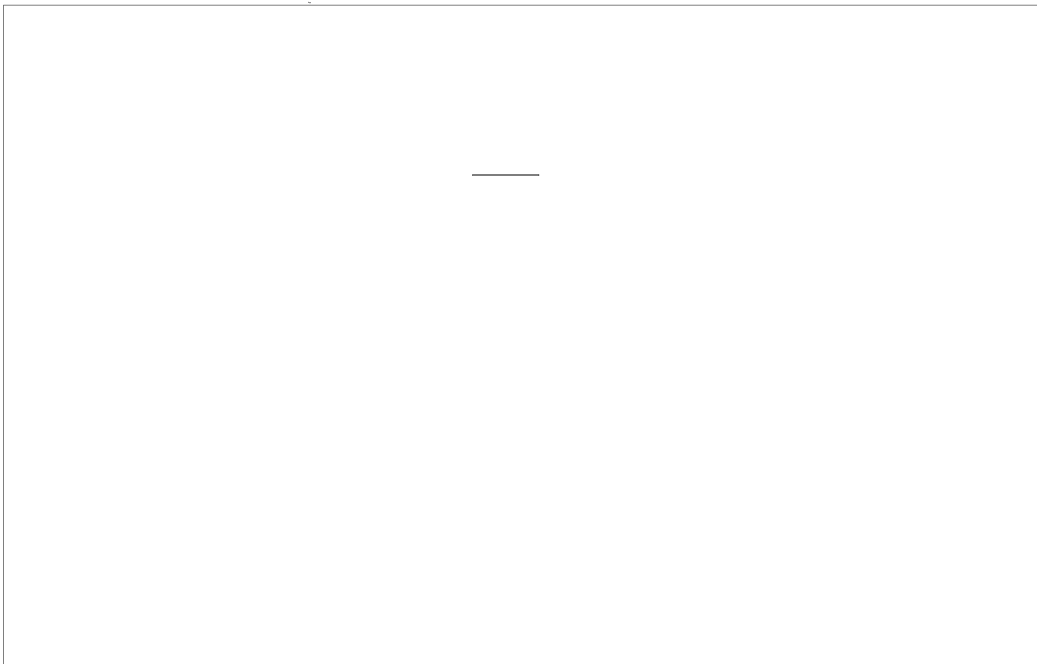
25X1

very flat, inclined turret, flattened on top; a gun in the lower third of the center of the turret, caliber about 100 to 120 mm without muzzle brake; spikes were fixed to the slanting nose plate. Five soldiers with helmets, probably the crew, stood near the tanks. 4

1. Comment. The report indicates that units of the 1st Mecz Div conducted large-scale exercises at the Doberitz troop training grounds from about 27 to 30 January, in the course of which apparently night firing practices were mainly held. These exercises were previously reported  It is believed that the practices also involved units of the 2d Light Arty Brig and, according to the 122 mm field guns, possibly also units of the 34th Arty Div. Similar maneuvers at division or corps level were frequently observed in the Soviet Zone of Germany in the second half of January.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 1. From 26 to 30 January 1955, a large exercise involving infantry and artillery (AT artillery, mortars, AAA) was held in the area of the Doeberitz field training grounds. In the course of the exercise, there was heavy artillery and mortar firing which began in the evening of 29 January and continued until the morning of 30 January. The following vehicles moved from the direction of Priort toward Karsower Forest from 1300 to 1320 on 28 January:

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6 armored personnel carriers

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1 armored personnel carrier with a 20-mm twin-barreled AA gun

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2 trucks with 2 x 57-mm AT guns

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and truck

- 2. The following column was seen coming from a southerly direction in the afternoon on 29 January:

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 12 field howitzers of 122 mm
 12 field guns of 122 mm
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SECRET [redacted]
[redacted]

25X1

The column entered the Doeberitz field training grounds near Fahrland. The units took up position in the southwestern part of the training grounds and remained in this area for three days engaging in night practices only. Heavy artillery and machine gun firing was heard during the nights concerned. In the morning of 1 February, the entire area was cleared of troops.

- 3. During the night of 28 January, unusually heavy artillery firing which even frightened the residents of the neighboring villages was heard from the direction of Doeberitz training grounds. Firing lasted from 2400 until 0500. Since 12 x 152-mm field howitzers and about 20 trucks with approximately 120 soldiers with field equipment left Olympisches Dorf (2067) for the training grounds on 27 January and returned at about 1000 on 29 January, it appeared that elements of the artillery brigade from Olympisches Dorf were also involved in the practices. 1

- 4. After 0800 on 2 February, the following elements of the artillery brigade from Olympisches Dorf were entrained at Dallgow-Doeberitz railroad station:

18 x 100-mm AT guns with 18 YA-12 prime movers
 approximately 15 x 152-mm field howitzers
 12 x 76-mm field guns
 approximately 120 trucks
 7 field kitchens
 and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia
 ammunition, fuel and equipment and trucks [redacted]

25X1

During the entraining operation which was not yet completed at 1730, the railroad station was unusually heavily guarded by sentries. A rear detail of approximately 120 soldiers remained in the quarters of the brigade.

25X1

- 5. All elements of the artillery brigade which had been entrained on 2 February returned to Olympisches Dorf during the night of 6 February. 2

25X1

- 6. On 29/30 January, three trains [redacted] went from Velten to Altengrabow. On 3 February, three trains [redacted] went from Altengrabow to Velten. The latter trains carried 12 M-13 rocket launchers, 24 trucks and 2 field kitchens. 3

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- 7. Eight new tanks with turtle-like turrets and three new tanks with onion-shaped turrets were parked in a shed of the Gentzrode training grounds north of Neuruppin from 17 to 28 January. From 2 to 4 February, these tanks came from the Fridericus Kaserne (2205) in Neuruppin to the training grounds for driving practices. During the period of the training, the roads were blocked by sentries. One of the tanks seen from a distance of 15 meters had the following shape and equipment:

25X1

SECRET [redacted]
[redacted]

25X1

25X1

SECRET

[Redacted]

25X1

25X1

- 3 0

very flat, inclined turret, flattened on top; a gun in the lower third of the center of the turret, caliber about 100 to 120 mm without muzzle brake; spikes were fixed to the slanting nose plate. Five soldiers with helmets, probably the crew, stood near the tanks. 4

- 1. [Redacted] Comment. The report indicates [Redacted] Div conducted large-scale exercises grounds from about 27 to 30 January, [Redacted] apparently night firing practices were mainly held. These exercises were previously reported [Redacted] It is believed that the practices also involved units of the 2d Light Arty Brig and, according to the 122 mm field guns, possibly also units of the 34th Arty Div. Similar maneuvers at division or corps level were frequently observed in the Soviet Zone of Germany in the second half of January.

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[Large Redacted Area]

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[Redacted]

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