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COUNTRY East Germany	REPORT
TOPIC Military Activity in the Area of the Third Gds Mees Army	
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED
DATE OF CONTENT	
DATE OBTAINED	PREPARED 4 March 1955
REFERENCES	
PAGES 5	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1
REMARKS	25X1
This is UNEVALUATED Information	
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1. From 1 to 4 February 1955, Stalag I (3321) in Luckenwalde was still occupied by approximately 500 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 4 February, 11 M-13 rocket launchers and 6 trucks received ammunition in the installation. Twelve other trucks [redacted] and sedan [redacted] were seen at the entrance. 25X1
2. Prior to 5 February, Stalag II (3321) in Luckenwalde was still occupied by 400 to 500 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. About 120 soldiers received infantry training in the installation. 25X1
3. From 25 January to 6 February, Forst Zinna field training grounds was placed off limits and heavily cordoned off. Heavy weapon firing was observed during daytime and at night. The following weapons and troops were observed:
 - 28 January: 4 AA guns, presumably of 76 mm
 - 29 January: 8 armored personnel carriers, 8 x 57-mm AT guns, 9 guns, presumably 122 mm field howitzers, 3 x 76-mm field guns and approximately 700 soldiers.
 - 30 January: 4 x 85-mm AT guns, 6 M-13 rocket launchers.
 - 4 February: 10 guns, presumably 76 mm field guns, 2 other guns, presumably 122 mm field howitzers and about 300 soldiers with gas masks. A total of 65 trucks was counted during the exercises.

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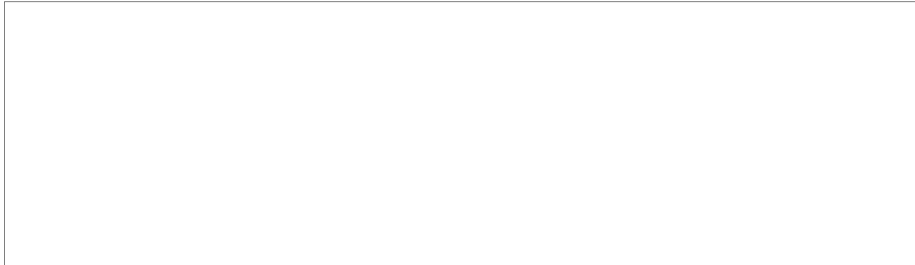
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- 4. Prior to 5 February. Camp Forst Zinna (53207) in Jueterbog quartered approximately 2,000 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia or plain epaulets without insignia.

On 27 January, 1, 3 and 5 February. unusually heavy machine gun firing was practiced on the post target range. The two 37-mm AA guns were moved back to the camp from the emplacement at Neue Muehle on 2 February.

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- 5. Between 13 January and 2 February. almost all trucks seen at Wittenberg post were new and of type ZIS-151 and, some, of ZIS-5 type. The kasernes appeared to be still heavily occupied. Eight to twelve tanks were daily seen in the tank training area. New type tanks were no longer observed.

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- 6. At 1600 on 1 February. 6 flatcars loaded with amphibious vehicles stood at the Wittenberg railroad station. The cars came from the direction of Falkenberg and proceeded toward Magdeburg.

Description of vehicle:

Similar to the DUKW-353 type, three axles, driving screw, length about 4 meters, normal width. The vehicles' superstructure was similar to that of armored personnel carriers. The only difference of recognition features was the front section of the radiator. The top was covered by a tarpaulin and the window panes replaced by sliding steel plates. No armament was seen. The vehicles were factory new. Details of three men each guarded the vehicles.

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- 7. Prior to 1 February 1955, no changes were noticed in ^{the} Jessen post. The former artillery depot (3181) quartered approximately 1,000 men.

- 8. On 3 February. the former artillery depot in Jessen was occupied by approximately 500 men who wore red-bordered black and black epaulets. No heavy weapons were seen. A truck mounting a searchlight with a diameter of about 150 mm, 1 truck with hoisting gear and 10 other trucks were parked in the yard. Forty soldiers received basic rifle drill; 60 other soldiers engaged in field training with rifles and 2 light

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machine guns in the area northwest of Jessen. Approximately 100 soldiers reconditioned a training area and an obstacle course about 100 meters north of the railroad line northwest of Jessen. About 30 soldiers repaired fences or erected new ones at the installation.

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9. On 4 February 1955, the Beseler Kaserne (3584) in Wittenberg quartered approximately 2,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, most of them with tank insignia. At about 0830, the following troops and vehicles left the kaserne:

2 JSU-249s
 2 driving school tanks,
 3 armored personnel carriers,
 radio truck other trucks
 occupied by troops.

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These vehicles were immediately followed by 10 T-34/85s
 Both columns drove toward the Teuchel training area. 7

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10. About 50 light AA guns and about 200 motor vehicles were seen in the area of Jueterbog-North, south of Zinna village.

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11. Between 16 January and 1 February 1955, the Kaserne Rosslau (3401) still quartered from 4,500 to 5,000 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia or with no insignia at all. During the period of observation, approximately 800 to 1,200 soldiers were engaged in drill and individual and group training inside and outside the installation. On 17 and 20 January, 3 or 5 T-34/85s were seen in the wooded area of Luko. On 28 January, 3 three-axle armored personnel carriers practiced driving in the same area. 9

12. Between 16 January and 1 February, the Kochstedt Kaserne (3241) quartered approximately 3,500 soldiers who wore tank and artillery insignia. The troops practiced individually or in groups inside and outside the kaserne. Weapons observed included 8 x 37-mm AAA and 4 searchlights.

13. At 1700 on 21 January 1955, about 30 to 35 trucks carrying 500 to 600 men, 8 x 37-mm AAA and 4 searchlights moved out of the kaserne for an exercise of several days duration in the area of Tornau north of Rosslau. The exercise included smoke-screen practices. On 24 January, the troops returned.

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14. On 4 February, the Gneisenau Kaserne (3621) in Zerbst was occupied to capacity. Troops seen wore red-bordered black epaulets. Fifteen T-34/85s were seen in the tank garages north of the Gneisenau and Scharnhorst kasernes; 18 tank trucks and 14 trucks were parked outside the garages.

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15. On 4 February. 3 T-34s practiced firing on the ranges 2 km north of the kasernes. One of the tanks was seen returning to the kaserne. 11

1. Comment. The data on weapons again confirm the 91st Gds RL Regt of the Third Gds Mecz Army in Stalag I (3321) in Luckenwalde. The units quartered in Stalag II cannot definitely be identified. According to service color and insignia, it is possible that elements of the 91st Gds RL Regt are also stationed there. 25X1

2. Comment. From 24 January to 2 February 1955, artillery units of the 12th Gds Tank Div (Second Gds Mecz Army) conducted firing practices at Jueterbog. 25X1

Comment. artillery units, possibly of the 14th Gds Mecz Div/ Third Gds Mecz Army and elements of the 91st Gds RL Regt also practiced firing during the reported period. 25X1

3. Comment. No changes.

4. Comment. No considerable changes have taken place in the Wittenberg post. The truck replacement program appears to have been completed there. 25X1

5. Comment. These amphibious cars cannot yet be identified. It is possible that the vehicles are part of a supply bound for the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GSFG since amphibious cars with cupolas have reportedly been seen in the quarters of this regiment in Magdeburg. 25X1

6. Comment. In mid-October 1953, the artillery park stationed in the former factory area (3181) in Jessen was transferred to Jueterbog. The installation has been vacant since early December 1954 when there were vague indications that the installation was reoccupied by an unidentified unit of the 6th Gds Tank Div. These assumptions were confirmed twice. The fact that troops reconditioned a training area and the kind of training observed lead to the conclusion that the soldiers concerned are a combat unit and not a workshop or supply unit. Identification has not yet been possible. 25X1

7. Comment. the 78th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 6th Gds Tank Div stationed in the Beseler Kaserne (3884) in Wittenberg. the 10 tanks of the subsequent column presumably belong to the u/i tank training battalion of the 6th Gds Tank Div which is stationed in the Arado plant (3582) in Wittenberg. 25X1

8. Comment. The transfer of light AAA units to Jueterbog for firing practices is known from previous information. 25X1

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9. Comment. The observations made in Rosslau do not indicate major changes at the kasernes there. 25X1
10. Comment. Data on weapons again confirm elements of the 62d AAA Div of the Third Gds Mecz Army in the kaserne in Kochstedt (3241). 25X1
11. Comment. The observed weapons again confirm a tank regt of the 7th Gds Tank Div, probably the 56th Gds Tank Regt, in the Gneisenau Kaserne (3621) in Zerbst. The installation further quarters the 287th Gds AAA Regt of the 7th Gds Tank Div. The Scharnhorst Kaserne (no serial number) in Zerbst has so far been thought to quarter a guard detail and to house weapons of the units in the Gneisenau Kaserne. The entire traffic to the Scharnhorst Kaserne leads through the Gneisenau Kaserne. 25X1

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