

CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Military Activity in the Area of the First Gds Meoz Army		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	7 March 1955
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	5	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information		
			25X1

1. The following observations were made at Koenigsbrueck field training grounds: 25X1

At 0830 on 18 January, 5 trucks [redacted] towing mortars, presumably of type 160 mm and came from the direction of Koenigsbrueck and entered Neues Lager (1523). Twelve trucks towing 57-mm AT guns [redacted] followed some time later. 25X1

At 0830 on 20 January 1955, 6 trucks towing guns, presumably 152mm field howitzers, drove from Neues Lager to Koenigsbrueck. At about 1800, another column of about 20 trucks left Neues Lager and went toward Koenigsbrueck. Of these trucks, 10 towed 85-mm AT guns and 5 trucks towed 57-mm AT guns. The rest of the trucks carried soldiers.

On 29 January 1955, 7 trucks loaded with ammunition drove from the Koenigsbrueck-West railroad station to Neues Lager. [redacted] 25X1  
 The following vehicles were seen en route from Koenigsbrueck to Neues Lager at 1920 on 30 January: 25X1

Armored personnel carriers [redacted] towing a 85-mm AT gun each 25X1

Armored personnel carrier [redacted] towing a 76-mm field gun each, and truck [redacted] 25X1

2. On 10 February 1955, the kaserne in Bischofswerda along the road to Bautzen (1141) was still occupied by a unit of about 300 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. Little training activity was observed. Sedan [redacted] was seen leaving the installation. 25X1

3. During the period from 25 January to 1 February 1955, the Strassburg Kaserne (1402) in Grimma was still occupied by a unit of 1,000 to 1,200 men. The troops wore red-bordered black epaulets, most of them with artillery, tank and motor transport insignia; some wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and others signal insignia. No training activity was noticed during the period of observation. [redacted] 25X1

*Nodex*

25X1  
25X1  
WIC

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

25X1

- 2 -

[REDACTED]

25X1

On 31 January, the following weapons were seen in the yard:  
4 armored personnel carriers with a 57-mm AT gun each and 4 armored personnel carriers with a 120-mm mortar each.

At 0930 on 11 February, a motor vehicle column of 1 radio truck, 1 armored personnel carrier, 3 armored trucks and 8 other trucks entered the kaserne. Escort personnel wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. In addition, armored personnel carriers [REDACTED] [REDACTED] truck [REDACTED] and jeep [REDACTED] were observed at the installation.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

4. During the same period, the Elsner Kaserne (1401) in Grimma still quartered a unit of 550 to 600 men. According to their service color, the units were of the following composition:

200 to 250 men of a signal unit with black-bordered black epaulets;  
200 to 250 men of an engineer unit with black-bordered black epaulets; and  
150 men of a motor transport unit with red-bordered black or black-bordered black epaulets.

No training activity was noticed. The following vehicles were seen at the kaserne:

Trucks [REDACTED] 25X1  
Radio truck [REDACTED] 25X1  
An old-type crane  
Truck [REDACTED] with guide rail, occupied by an officer wearing red-bordered golden epaulets and driven by a soldier with black-bordered black epaulets 25X1  
Armored personnel carriers [REDACTED] 25X1

At about 2030 on 11 February, the following unit was detained at the Obere Bahnhof in Grimma:

1 major wearing black-bordered golden epaulets  
36 soldiers with field equipment and black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia  
3 trucks with guide rails and  
1 other truck.

5. On 31 January 1955, an officers' meeting was held in the officer club in Grimma. The following officers were among those attending the briefing:

1 colonel with red-bordered golden epaulets with artillery insignia;  
1 colonel with crimson-bordered golden epaulets with artillery insignia;  
1 lieutenant colonel with black-bordered golden epaulets with engineer insignia;  
1 major with black-bordered golden epaulets with signal insignia;  
1 captain with red-bordered golden epaulets with signal insignia.

6. During the period from 3 to 13 February 1955, the occupation of the barracks installations in Grimma could not clearly be determined. In addition to the signal unit from the Elsner Kaserne which was previously reported to be absent, it appeared that up to 50 percent of the troops stationed at the post were absent. No entrainments or detrainments were observed except the entraining on 11 February.

7. On 4 February 1955, the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig - Schoenau (8241) still quartered a unit of approximately 1,200 men. About 75 percent of the soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery, tank or motor transport insignia and about 25 percent wore black-bordered

25X1

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

S-E-C-R-E-T

[REDACTED]

25X1

~~SECRET~~

[Redacted]

25X1

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

[Redacted]

25X1

- 3 -

crimson epaulets including a few with artillery insignia. Training activity included firing practices and special training on rocket launchers, tanks, and with telephone sets and aiming circles.

On 27 January, about 30 soldiers practiced with 2 M-13 rocket launchers in firing position on Kirschberg hill.

The following motor vehicles were seen at the kaserne:

Armored personnel carrier [Redacted] with antenna

25X1

Trucks [Redacted]

25X1

On 31 January, a medium T634 tank was seen near the fuel depot. A truck mounting a searchlight with a diameter of 60 to 70 cm and a generator was seen inside the area of the Flak Kaserne.

- 8. On 28 January and 2 February, the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig-Schoenau quartered an estimated 1,000 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia. The kaserne was not occupied to capacity. Some of the officers wore tank insignia. Up to 60 soldiers and several machine gun sections were engaged in firing practices on the training grounds near Lindenau on the two days.

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

- 9. During the period from 28 January to 8 February 1955, no essential changes were noticed at the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig-Schoenau. Work on the new buildings northeast of the kaserne continued. Up to the time of observation, one house with two rows of five windows each has been observed. Motor vehicles [Redacted] included driver school truck [Redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

- 10. During the period from 20 January to 15 February 1955, the Kaserne at Leipzig-Heiterblick (8242) quartered a unit of about 1,000 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank or motor transport insignia. On 12 February, approximately 50 men received individual training in the terrain or practiced marching with gas masks. About 40 driver school trucks carrying 120 to 150 soldiers were seen en route toward Taucha.

On 10 February, 2 T-34s including one No 854 were entrained for an undetermined destination at Tauchau railroad station. [Redacted]

25X1

[Redacted] the following troops and materiel were entrained at the Taucha railroad station during the night of 13 February 1955:

25X1

50 to 50 soldiers  
several tanks, trucks with mattress covers  
equipment and furniture

The unit appeared to be an advance detail for Koenigsbrueck.

- 11. On 26 January and 3 February 1955, the kaserne in Leipzig - Heiterblick quartered an estimated 1,000 to 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. The kaserne appeared to be occupied to capacity. Troops engaged in infantry training which involved up to 250 men. Four T-34/85 practiced driving in the area near Heegeritz. Driver school trucks [Redacted] were seen.

25X1

- 12. On 31 January 1955, the Hindenburg-Kaserne (8253) in Leipzig was occupied by approximately 500 soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets. The installation was occupied to capacity. Black-bordered blue epaulets were no longer seen. No training activity was observed.

~~SECRET~~

[Redacted]

25X1

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

[Redacted]

25X1

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~ [redacted]

25X1

~~SECRET~~

[redacted]

25X1

- 4 -

13. On 31 January, the Treitschke Kaserne (8245) in Leipzig quartered approximately 500 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets. The kaserne was occupied to capacity. Up to 60 soldiers were seen at firing practice inside the installation. [redacted]

[redacted]

25X1  
25X1

14. On 31 January 1955, the Train Kaserne in Leipzig was apparently occupied to capacity by about 300 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia.

15. The following observations were made at the Zeithain troop training grounds:

25X1

At 1630 on 3 February 1955: T-34/85s [redacted] and 604 truck [redacted] occupied by one officer and 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia drove from the Von-der-Goltz Kaserne (1802) in Riesa to the Zeithain troop training grounds.

25X1  
25X1

At 1700: four-wheel armored personnel carrier [redacted] occupied by 3 officers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets drove from Riesa to the troop training grounds.

25X1

At 2100 on 4 February: 4 T-34/85s [redacted] 2 salvage tanks and 4 workshop trucks [redacted] drove from the training grounds toward Oschatz.

25X1  
25X1

At about 1000 on 5 February: armored personnel carriers [redacted] arrived at the troop training grounds from the direction of Riesa.

25X1

From 0900 until 1230 on 7 February and from 2000 to 2300 on 8 February: The noise of tank firing was heard from the direction of the training grounds.

At 1400 on 8 February: T-34/85s [redacted] and 1 salvage tank drove from the troop training grounds toward Riesa, presumably to the Von-der-Goltz Kaserne.

25X1

At 1415: Two T-34/85s [redacted] and JS tank [redacted] were parked at the firing range east of the main camp in Zeithain (1901). Four canvas-covered T-34/8s, 1 JSU-122 and 1 JS tank were parked along the eastern edge of the main camp.

25X1  
25X1

On 9 February: Two T-34/85s drove from the Von-der-Goltz Kaserne in Riesa to the Zeithain troop training grounds. Tank firing was heard from there between 1000 and 1600.

[redacted]

25X1

1. [redacted] Comment. The field howitzers and AT guns observed at the Koenigsbrueck troop training grounds presumably belong to the u/i artillery brigade of the First Gds Mecz Army; the mortar unit cannot be identified. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted]

25X1  
25X1

~~SECRET~~

[redacted]

S-E-C-R-E-T

[redacted]

25X1

25X1

~~SECRET~~

[Redacted]

25X1

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

[Redacted]

25X1

- 5 -

- 2. [Redacted] Comment. The information indicates that the unidentified motor transport battalion of the 11th Gds Tank Div is still quartered in the kaserne in Bischofswerda on the road to Bautzen. 25X1
- 3. [Redacted] Comment. There were apparently no changes at Grimma post. It is possible that elements of the units at the post have participated in undetermined exercises or bivouacs near the garrison. 25X1
- 4. [Redacted] 25X1
- 5. [Redacted] Comment. There were apparently no changes in the quartering of units of the First Gds Mecz Army in Leipzig. The rocket launchers identified in the kaserne in Leipzig Schoenau probably belong to the 84th Gds RL Regt of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps of the Eighth Gds Army. The Treitschke Kaserne in Leipzig still quarters an MVD unit [Redacted] The Train Kaserne in Leipzig is again believed to quarter a supply or workshop unit. 25X1
- 6. [Redacted] Comment. [Redacted] the tanks identified in Zeithain belong to the following units: 25X1  
25X1

To the 108th Tank Regt/9th Tank Div from Riesa (at 1630 on 3 February)  
 To the 23d Tank Regt/9th Tank Div from Oschatz (2100 on 4 February)  
 To the 108th Tank Regt/9th Tank Div from Riesa (1400 on 8 February)  
 To the 95th Tank Regt/9th Tank Div from Zeithain (1415 on 8 February at the tank firing range).

~~SECRET~~

[Redacted]

25X1

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

[Redacted]

25X1