

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Brandis Airfield

EVALUATION [redacted] PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] PREPARED 27 April 1955 25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 - sketches on ditto

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. During the periods of from 8 to 28 February, from 1 to 4 March and from 7 to 13 March 1955, no take-offs and landings were observed at Brandis airfield nor were aircraft were there. On some days, the troops were engaged in firing practices and drilling. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] a shipment with 400 to 500 men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets with trucks and 40 to 50 caterpillar tractors arrived on 10 March. The troops were quartered in the 3 rear barracks installations which had been renovated a short time before. The total personnel strength was estimated at 1,000 to 1,100 men, all wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. On 17 March, about 100 men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were seen drilling. About 20 trucks were parked near the fire department. 25X1

2. Runway mats were unloaded from the following railroad cars by means of a crane:

| | |
|--------|---------------|
| 2 cars | on 9 February |
| 4 " | " 11 " |
| 3 " | " 12 " |
| 4 " | " 14 " |
| 3 " | " 17 " |
| 4 " | " 19 " |

Additional mats were unloaded on 23 February. Two cars each were unloaded on 7, 9, 10 and 13 March, and 3 cars on 12 March. Eight to 10 piles of runway mats were seen in the northeastern section of the landing field. Additional mats were stored in hangar No 6. No construction work was yet observed indicating an extension of the runway. On 1 March, a shipment of sheet metal grates, each about 2 meters long, 1 meter wide and 12 cm thick, probably runway base plates, were observed at Brandis airfield. On 2 March, 12 piles each of about 100 plates were seen east of the spur track opposite the fuel installations. [redacted] plates 25X1
of the same type were stored in hangar No 6. Another type of sheet metal plate, 2 cm thick with perforated holes at regular intervals and hooks at the edges, were previously observed at the field. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] these mats were similar to runway mats used by the Americans. 25X1
Sketches were made of both types. 2

Handwritten signature

3. [redacted] 25X1

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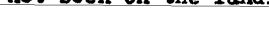

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25X1

All of the trucks had drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets.

4. On 2 March, 7 large railroad tank cars were shunted to the airfield. These tank cars were not seen on the landing field near the fuel dumps on 3 March, although  they were emptied in the course of the day.  On 15 March, 3 railroad tank cars were seen on the spur track. 3

25X1

1.  Comment. The unconfirmed shipment on 10 March was apparently loaded with an air force construction unit. The mission of this unit, possibly in connection with the arrival of runway mats, has not been determined. 25X1
2.  Comment. For sketches of runway mats, see Annexes 1 and 2. 25X1
3.  Comment. According to available information, the fuel dumps are located in the southern section of the field. These dumps are apparently being filled.

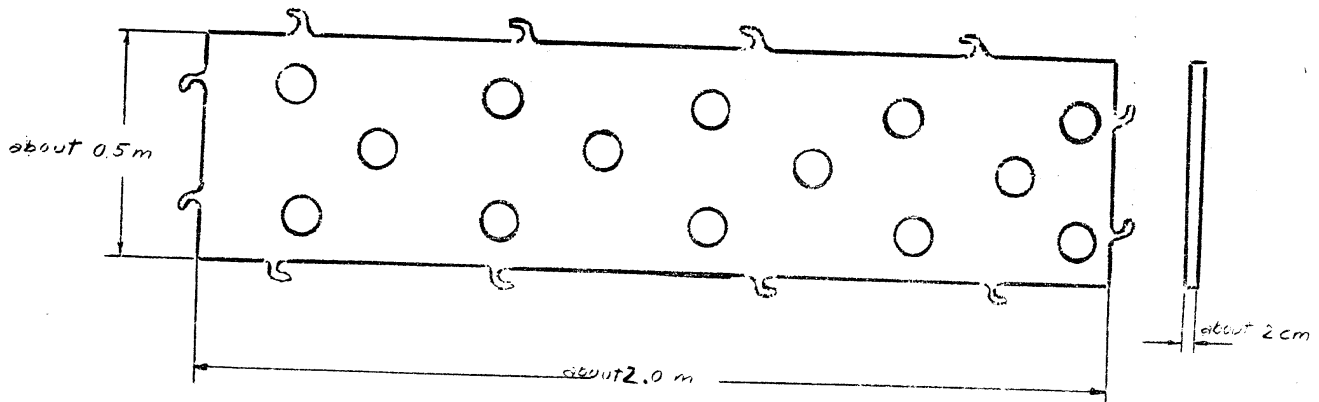
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Annex No 1



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Pierced Steel Runway Mats at Brandis Airfield



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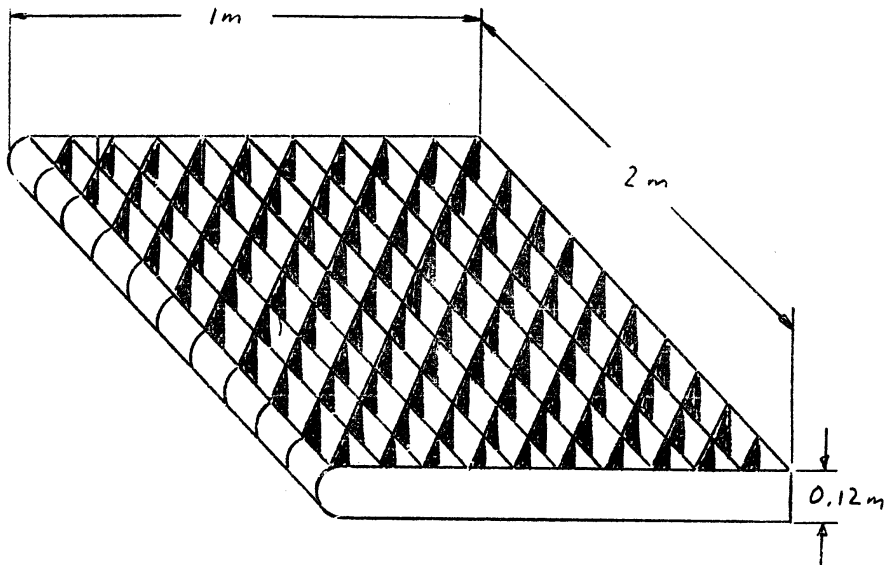


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Annex 2

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Runway Base Plates Observed at Brandis Airfield



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