

EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	28 June 1955
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. The following air activity was observed at Briesen airfield between 4 and 12 May 1955:

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4 May. There was no flying at night. After 2000 hours, IL-28s took off about every 2 minutes for individual flights. Approximately 15 aircraft were in the air at the same time. Except for 2 aircraft, all of the IL-28s flew without position lights. The airfield and runway lights had not been switched on. A red searchlight was in operation at the eastern end of the runway. During air activity, several of the aircraft fired 5 individual rounds from their machine guns. Targets were not noticed. Flying discontinued about 0210. The weather was overcast with a strong southwesterly wind.

5 May. At 1800 hours, two transport aircraft took off in a heavy thunder shower and flew circles over the field at an altitude of 800 to 1,000 meters. From one of the planes which was flying at a slightly lower altitude than the other one, six men parachuted at intervals of about 15 seconds. After the aircraft had flown another circle, an additional six parachutists jumped. When the rain stopped at about 2000 hours, heavy night flying began after the pattern observed in the preceding night. This time, however, all aircraft used their position lights and the runway lights were also in operation. Flying discontinued about 0148. At 1700, 25 IL-28s and two LI-2s were observed parked on the hardstands along the southern taxiway.

9 May. One LI-2 took off five times between 1400 and 1900. Weather was 5/10 overcast and the cloud base was at 2,000 meters. During each flight by the LI-2, 14 parachute jumps were made; a total of 70 parachutists were observed during the five flights which were made at intervals of one hour each.

11 May. At about 1300, five MiG-15s which approached from the east crossed the airfield. After banking several times in the vicinity of the field, they continued their flight to the west. Between 2000

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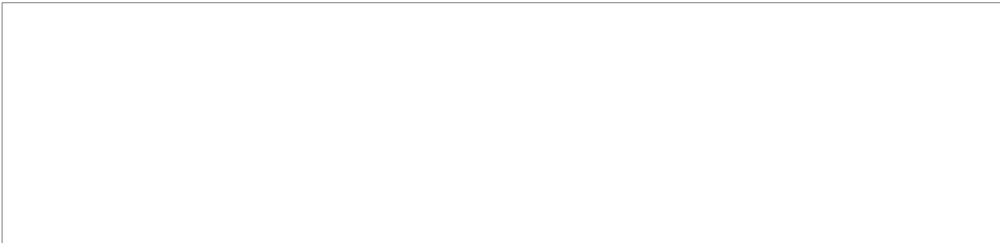
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and 0150, intensive night flying was done. About every four or five minutes one plane took off. There were 10 or 11 aircraft seen aloft at the same time. During the initial phase of this air activity the individual flights lasted about 20 minutes. Airfield and runway lights were not switched on and only a red searchlight at the eastern end of the runway was in operation. The aircraft used their position lights, and switched on two white landing lights before they landed.

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- 1.  Comment. Briesen airfield is still occupied by a bomber regiment equipped with about 30 IL-28s. It is believed that the parachute jumps were made within the framework of scheduled training for flying personnel.

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- 2.



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CLASSIFICATION	SECRET		25X1
COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	25X1
TOPIC	Military Activities and Shipments in the Area of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	27 June 1955
REFERENCES		This is UNEVALUATED Information	25X1
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1. On 13 May 1955, it was learned that an airfield was to be constructed in the Kroechlendorf-Wichmannsdorf-Beenz area, about 12 km southwest of Prenzlau. The clearing of a wooded area of approximately 200 hectares had already started. Farmers were reportedly no longer permitted to work on their fields. 25X1
2. Between 16 and 18 May, a total of approximately 30 trucks with barracks sections from Camp Vogelsang or Kanneffburg were seen en route toward Prenzlau. A Boitzenburg resident stated that the trucks were unloaded west of Beenz and that the area between Kroechlendorf-Wichmannsdorf and Beenz had been confiscated by the Soviets and was to be used as a tank training area. The area included woods and fields which was reportedly being erected northwest of Beenz. The area was patrolled by Soviet troops with tanks. Three T-34 tanks had been observed. Residents from the adjacent villages were restricted to their houses after 2100. 25X1
3. Prior to late May, the area south of the Kannenburg lock at the Templin training grounds had been evacuated and relinquished, except for several buildings just south of the lock. Soviet sentries were still observed near the lock. The camp north of Grosser Lanken See was still occupied.<sup>2</sup> During the nights of 17/18 and 26/27 May, firing practices were held at the Templin training grounds.<sup>3</sup> 25X1
4. At midnight on 24 May, a shipment with 8 canvas-covered tanks was seen at the Eberswalde freight station. The shipment was no longer observed there at 1100 on 25 May.<sup>4</sup> 25X1
5. At 2030 on 30 May, 6 T-54 tanks and, from a boxcar, an escorting detail and equipment were unloaded at the Satzkorn railroad station. The shipment had arrived from Brest Litovsk. 25X1

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6. On 31 May, 4 T-34/85 tanks, 1 radio or repair shop truck, 1 sidecar motorcycle, 1 field kitchen and approximately 10 boxcarloads of soldiers were entrained or detrained at the Bernau railroad station.<sup>6</sup>

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7. On 1 and 2 June, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne (4241) in Bernau was apparently not occupied to capacity. The absent troops were probably stationed in the training area near Schoenow from which locality noise of battle and reports of guns were heard almost daily. 7

8. On 9 June, a train with 10 tanks, trucks and 5 boxcars with soldiers want from Templin to Berlin-Kaulsdorf [redacted]

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1. [redacted] Comment. It cannot yet be determined whether an advanced airfield or a training grounds for units from the Prenzlau post was being prepared in the area southwest of Prenzlau. It is possible that dismantled buildings from Camp Vogelsang or Hammelspring were being used. See [redacted] Comment 2.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The information indicates that Camp Hammelspring south of the Kannenburg lock had been dismantled, while Camp Kannenburg north of Grosser Lanken See was still in existence and was possibly occupied by firing details of the 6th Gds Mecz Div. The cantonment buildings from Camp Hammelspring had presumably been shipped to the area northwest of Beenz.

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3. [redacted] Comment. The firing presumably involved units of the 25th Tank Div stationed in the Neue Kaserne northwest of Vogelsang (south of 4823) and/or units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div.

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4. [redacted] Comment. The train probably carried a tank firing detail of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, which presumably went to Templin. The transfer was confirmed by other reports. Firing details of this division had repeatedly been entrained for Templin prior to late May.

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5. [redacted] Comment. This arrival of T-54 tanks for the 10th Gds Tank Div was confirmed by several sources.

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6. [redacted] Comment. A tank firing detail of the 6th Gds Mecz Div which, according to railroad records, had transferred to Templin on 18/19 May, presumably returned.

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7. [redacted] Comment. Exercises of elements of the 6th Gds Mecz Div in the Schoenow post training area west of Bernau had repeatedly been reported by several sources during the month of May.

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8. [redacted] Comment. A firing detail of the 68th Gds Tank Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div which [redacted] was transferred to Templin on 20 May, probably returned on this train. [redacted]

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