

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

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COUNTRY **East Germany**

REPORT

Military Activities and Movements in the Area of the Soviet GDR**Near Army and the Rathenow Area**

EVALUATION

PLACE COVERED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED **27 June 1955**

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REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES **see cover**

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 0600 on 25 May 1955, a shipment of 8 x 57-mm AF guns, 1 x 76-mm field gun, 3 x 85-mm AF guns, 12 mortars, presumably of 120 mm, 1 armored personnel carrier, some 30 trucks and approximately 8 benzars with personnel was seen at the Fuerstenberg/Neusel railroad station.
2. At 1500 on 25 May, a shipment of 8 x 57-mm AF guns, 3 x 76-mm field guns, 1 x 85-mm AF gun, 3 x 120-mm mortars, 1 armored personnel carrier, approximately 18 trucks, 1 field kitchen and 6 benzars with personnel passed through the Sachsen railroad station en route from the direction of Leutenberg toward Justerberg. At 0945 on 26 May, a shipment of 4 x 85-mm and 10 x 57-mm AF guns, 4 x 120-mm mortars, some 25 trucks, 1 field kitchen and 7 benzars with personnel passed through the Sachsen railroad station en route from Justerberg to Fuerstenberg/Neusel.¹
3. On 27 May, many soldiers were seen at crossings including attack and river-crossing with small and large pneumatic rafts in the southern portion of Malchow Lake near Neuschuler Schleuse north of Neuruppin. Four 85-mm AF guns were captured at the western shore of the lake.²
4. At 0900 on 1 June, a train carrying 20 to 25 trucks with BP-type pontoons and personnel was seen at the Neubrandenburg railroad station en route toward Malchin.
5. On 1 June, 2 shipments from Neubrandenburg, each of 18 trucks with pontoons, some 10 trucks with engineer equipment and 100 to 120 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets, were unloaded at the Rathenow railroad station and left toward Neue Schluess. On 5 and 9 June, 20 pontoons were seen on the western bank of the Neusel River 1 km south of Hohmannen, and an undetermined number of soldiers were stationed southeast Crucka, presumably in a bivouac.

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6. At 1030 on 1 June, approximately 20 trucks with pontoons, 15 trucks with personnel, engineer and billeting equipment, 1 DUKW-353 type amphibious vehicle, 1 motorboat and 2 field kitchens were seen in Rathenow en route toward Neue Schleuse. At 2300, approximately 20 trucks with soldiers went in the same direction. 3

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7. On 2 June, the following shipments passed through the Oranienburg railroad station:

1130. A shipment of 6 trucks with pontoons, 2 motorboats, 2 small amphibious vehicles, 19 trucks, 2 field kitchens and 5 boxcars with soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets, which was reported going from Prenzlau to Wustermark and was allegedly bound for Halle/Saale.

1205. A shipment of 28 trucks with pontoons, 1 large and 1 small amphibious vehicle, 2 motorboats, 2 field kitchens, 2 flatcars with sideracks carrying billeting equipment and 8 boxcars with soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets, which was reported going from Prenzlau to Wustermark. 4

1. Comment. Artillery units of the 33d or 34th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 9 and/or 12th Gds Tank Div probably went to Justerbog for firing practices. According to previous reports, these units returned to Fuerstenberg

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2. Comment. The exercise probably involved units of the 205th Engr Bn of the 12th Gds Tank Div which utilized the area near Neumuehler Schleuse for engineer exercises in preceding years also.

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3. Comment. these were quite definitely units of the 88th Engr Regt (?) of the Second Gds Mecz Army from Neubrandenburg which apparently transferred to the area north of Rathenow in 2 shipments for engineer exercises. This area on the Havel River had also been utilized for exercises by engineer units of the Second Gds Mecz Army during the same period in preceding years.

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4. Comment. According to available information, no engineer units are stationed in Prenzlau. It is assumed that engineer units of the Second Gds Mecz Army which transferred to exercises in the area north of Rathenow were involved.

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