

IN REPORT INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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The following is a summary of information on Soviet and East German military activities []

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A. General:

- 19-29 September : Large elements of the Third Shock Army, with artillery and engineer units of the GSFG, assembled between the Elbe River and the Dessau-Berlin Autobahn for fall maneuvers.
- After 19 September : Elements of the First and Third Guards Mechanized Armies assembled in the Weisswasser area. Engineers from these Armies assembled in the Muehlberg area.
- 19-25 September : There were presumably divisional exercises by the 25th Tank Division, the Sixth and Seventh Tank Divisions and the 20th Guards Mechanized Division.
- Early September : Individual personnel shipments were observed crossing the border in both directions.
- Late September : Empty personnel shuttle trains were available at several posts. The KVP summer training program was near completion. It appeared possible that there would be a major fall exercise in Saxony which would include elements of the three mechanized divisions and Soviet troops. A considerable number of personnel in the area of the Korps Nord were detached to aid in the harvesting of crops.
- No date of info : The KVP was presumably dissolved from the MDI. The reorganization of the MDI was begun.

B. Soviet Dispositions:

1. Eighth Guards Army:

20 September : Thirty motor vehicles were observed leaving Jena on

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route toward Schwarza.

- 19 September : Two shipments, totaling 29 T-34's and three SU-100's, were entrained in Zeitz.
- 24 September : Two shipments, totaling 37 T-34's and three SU-100's, were detrained in Zeitz.
- 25 September : Eight rocket launchers, 12 x 57 mm anti-aircraft guns, 8 x 120 mm mortars and 40 trucks were returned to Zeitz from the Zeitz Forest area.
- 24 September : Approximately 60 vehicles, eleven guns, and eight heavy mortars were observed entering Weimar road installation 8502/03 from the west.
- 23-24 September : Several columns with approximately 100 vehicles, including some with signal units and 10 JS-3's, were shipped to Jena from the direction of Schwarza. Because of maneuvers, the crops in the area southwest of Jena were allegedly harvested prior to 6 October; units from Zeitz participating were expected to return prior to 15 October.¹
- 22 September : The Gera Artillery Brigade was at its post.
- 18 September : An engineer unit with 14 amphibious vehicles entered Naumburg installation 8382.
- 20 September : An advanced detail of the 57th Guards Motorized Rifle Division's Howitzer Artillery Regiment arrived in Naumburg.
- 20-26 September : There were no major exercises at the Kindel training grounds; however, motor-vehicle numbers of the 57th Guards Motorized Rifle Division were observed there. Officers' families from Naumburg were occupying apartments at the southern edge of the training grounds.
2. Third Shock Army
- 19 September : An artillery unit was unloaded in Haldensleben.
- 22-23 September : Three military shipments went from Eberswalde to Altengrabow.
- 23 September : An engineer unit with 120 motor vehicles including 60 TMP pontoons, 12 DUKV (sic), eight motorboats, and heavy military bridge equipment left Engineer Camp E in Rosslau en route toward Streetz north of Rosslau.
- 25 September : Two military shipments with anti-tank guns went from Schwerin to Nedlitz.
- After 29 September : The area south of Brandenburg was restricted because of fall exercises.²
3. First and Third Guards Mechanized Armies:
- 14 September : Engineer units were in the Dessau-Aken training area.

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- 19 and 23 September: On both of these days, one military shipment went to Rietschen via Koenigswusterhausen.
- 21-26 September : Two military shipments, including 37 railroad cars with tanks, went from Luebben to Hoyerswerda and Rietschen.
- 20 September : A military shipment with armored vehicles left Grimma en route toward Koenigsbrueck.
- 22-27 September : The 7th Guards Tank Division left the Werder-Markendorf camp en route toward Tiefenbrunn-Luedendorf via Jueterbog.
- After 28 September : Billeting equipment and ammunition was loaded in the Zinna Forest and shipped toward Wittenberg.
- 26 September : Two military shipments went from Wittenberg to Kuestrin.³

4. Fourth Guard Mechanized Army:

- 19 September : Columns with tanks and trucks were shipped from the direction of Prenzlau toward Hammelspring.
- 21-22 September : Columns of the 25th Tank Division arrived at the Vogelsang kaserne from the south.
- 23 September : IL-28's were observed flying over Templin.
- 25 September : One military shipment with 14 tanks arrived at Templin from the direction of Eberswalde.
- 24, 26, and 27 September : On each of these days, one military shipment was unloaded in Templin.⁴
- 30 September : One shipment with 14 DUKV (sic) amphibious vehicles arrived in Templin from the direction of Eberswalde.
- 1 October : Tank columns with anti-tank guns, anti-aircraft guns and mortars, which arrived at Eberswalde and Freienwalde from an undetermined direction, were loaded for shipment to Templin.⁵

5. Second Guards Mechanized Army:

- 24 September : The Neuruppin post was occupied to capacity.
- Prior to 23 September : The Wittstock training grounds was unoccupied.

6. Fourth Artillery Corps:

- 19-20 September : Three military shipments, with vehicles and equipment, went from Altengrabow to Wildpark.
- 29 September : A mortar brigade arrived at Rathenow from Altengrabow by road and rail.

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30 September : One shipment, with elements of the 18th Light Howitzer Brigade, went from Altengrabow to Rathenow.

C. Weapons:

13-14 September : One shipment with 21 armored personnel carriers and one shipment with 24 x 100 mm anti-tank guns were loaded in Bernau.

15 September : One shipment with 54 x 85 mm anti-tank guns came from the direction of Cottbus and was headed for the border.

21 September : One shipment with 80 x 120 mm mortars went from Rathenow to Frankfurt/Oder.

23 September : One shipment with 128 mortars, allegedly of 160 mm, and light track-laying vehicles, came from the direction of Cottbus and was en route toward Frankfurt/Oder.

25 September : One shipment with nine tanks came from the direction of Frankfurt/Oder and was en route toward Cottbus.

D. Parasneel Exchange:

4 September : Fifty boxcars with personnel went from Dresden to Brest-Litovsk via Cottbus.

7 September : Fifty boxcars with personnel went from Brest-Litovsk to Frankfurt/Oder via Kuestrin.

16 September : Forty-seven boxcars, with approximately 1500 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, departed from Dessau en route toward Oranienbaum.

25 September : Forty-eight boxcars with personnel went from Frankfurt/Oder to Altengrabow.

26 September : Fifty-five converted boxcars, one kitchen car, and one coal wagon were shipped from Schwerin to Kuestrin.

21-24 September : Forty-seven empty converted boxcars were assembled in Weimar.

28 September : Four empty shuttle trains were assembled in Justerbog; one was assembled in Templin and two were assembled in Eberswalde.

Prior to 1 October : Two or three additional shuttle trains were assembled in Eberswalde.

23-24 September : Final roll calls or demobilization ceremonies were held in Altengrabow, Neuruppin, and Schoenenwalde.

E. KVP:

6 September : Elements of mechanized units from the Oranienburg concentration camp were observed in the Gross Schoensbeck and the Lehnitz Forest areas.

9 September : The Karpin Second Mechanized Regiment returned to its post, after a twelve-day exercise in the Ahlbeck-Luckow-Rieth area.

13-17 September : Vehicles and umpire officers from all of the Karpin units were detached for exercises in either the Dresden or the Weisswasser area.

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- After 23 September : There were allegedly additional detachments of personnel for large-scale exercises in Saxony.
- 21 September : The training activity of elements of the Frenzlau Motorized Rifle Division continued in the area north of Pasewalk.
- 27 September : The Altwarp Anti-aircraft Regiment was expected to return from Kuehlungsborn.
- 15 September : The 1955 GST summer training was completed. From a total of 18,600 participants approximately 5,800 were promoted to the rank of Gruppenleiter in the GST.

Comments:

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1. During the period from 19 to 24 September, there were presumably exercises by the 20th Guards Mechanized Division between Ohrdruf and their posts. It is possible that there were additional exercises.
2. The Third Shock Army was probably still assembling for fall exercises and was not expected to cross the Elbe River before 1 October.
3. There were presumably joint exercises between elements of the First Guards Mechanized Army and the Ninth Mechanized Division in an area beginning at Weiswasser and extending toward Muehlberg. There was also an undetermined type of exercise of elements of the Third Guards Mechanized Army in the area between Baruth and Wittenberg.
4. These shipments were presumably for the 25th Tank Division's exercises.
5. These tank columns were presumably for the Sixth Guards Mechanized Divisions's exercises.

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