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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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[Redacted]

REPORT NO.

[Redacted]

50X1

COUNTRY East Germany/USSR

DATE DISTR. 27 June 1955

SUBJECT 1. Soviet Army Logistics Supply and Transportation
2. Soviet Army Medical Procedures

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Soviet Standard Brief No. 4

SOVIET ARMY LOGISTICS, SUPPLY AND TRANSPORTATION

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Soviet Standard Brief No. 4

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50X1 [redacted] 50X1
 [redacted] He understood the term "rear area" to designate merely the counterpart of "forward area" (peredovaya liniya). Although asked all questions in this brief, [redacted] supply the information appearing in this report.

50X1 [redacted] the Soviet supply system in East Germany was good, at least, from what he heard, considerably better than in the USSR.

A. MEDICAL PROCEDURES

1. First Aid Training

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[redacted] remembered receiving first aid training only three times. These three first aid training sessions, each lasting from one to two hours, were all received [redacted] and [redacted] were conducted by the Company medical or first-aid soldier. The lessons consisted in teaching recruits how to apply bandages, tourniquets and splints. With regard to the latter, [redacted] was shown how to use sticks or carbines for that purpose. 50X1

2. Pre-Induction Medical Examination

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50X1 [redacted] received a physical examination [redacted] at the KARAGAY (5116N-5456E) Rayon Voenkomat. [redacted] He was given a chest X-ray; his eyes, ears, heart and pulse were examined; his weight and height were recorded; and a general body examination was given. [redacted] any urinalysis or blood test or a color-vision test. [redacted] it was too thorough an examination, because, as he said, two fellow-inductees, whose physical condition was doubtful, were sent to the MOLOTOV Oblast Voenkomat for a more thorough check-up. The examination was conducted by civilian female doctors and by one army medical officer, either a lieutenant or a senior lieutenant. [redacted] the exact number and the precise respective functions of the examining medical personnel. 50X1

3. Physical Examinations During Service

a. Post-Induction

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50X1 Following his induction [redacted] complete medical examination at the Oblastnoy Voenkomat in MOLOTOV [redacted] It was a fairly thorough one, [redacted] that about 1,000 recruits were examined within about five hours.

The examination was conducted by both male and female doctors in civilian clothes. [redacted] they were [redacted] military and did not remember the exact number and the precise respective functions of the examining medical personnel. He did recall that he and other inductees had to undress completely, that he was given a chest X-ray and that his eyes, ears and throat were examined. His weight and height were recorded; he was given a nerve reaction test and the soles of his feet were examined. 50X1

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h. During Basic Training

50X1 [redacted] basic training somewhere in the vicinity of KAMYSHLOV (5650N-6240E) ². After about two weeks he was given another physical examination conducted by both male and female military medical officers. [redacted] they were officers because he could see their military-type trousers or skirts under their white coats. He thought they wore shoulderboards but could not recall any grades or exact number and functions of the various doctors. He thought that one of them had a fairly high rank, such as perhaps lieutenant colonel. They examined his eyes, ear, throat and tested his eyesight and color vision. His weight and height were recorded. They measured his blood pressure, and he had to blow into a lung-capacity meter. Another chest X-ray was taken, and he received some unidentified injections into his back. [redacted] press a hand grip which recorded the pressure of his grip. 50X1

c. At Unit in East Germany

50X1 About one month after his arrival in East Germany 2. [redacted] a medical examination at the 4th Co, 93d Sep Security Bn in Bockstadt (5025N-1054E). It was rather superficial and was conducted by the two medical officers of the battalion. [redacted] many details of it but remembered that they again tested the pressure of his grip and that he had to stand on a contraption and try to raise it by means of handles attached to springs. Somehow he believed his lifting power was thus measured. The rest, as far as he could remember, was a routine physical examination. 50X1

50X1 [redacted] The same two battalion medical officers conducted the examination. His weight and height were recorded and he had to blow air into a lung capacity meter. The officers measured the pressure of his grip, and he received an unidentified injection in his back, and he believed, a vaccination. 50X1

The next medical examination took place in SCHAFHAUSEN (5034N-1010E) in the fall of 1953. A medical officer, whose rank he could not remember, arrived on a truck with two soldiers, one a driver and the second one a clerk, and they took chest X-rays of the entire company. 50X1

50X1 [redacted] medical officers again conducted a superficial medical examination, similar to the previous ones, [redacted] 50X1

d. Dental Examination

50X1 In Feb 54, a Captain, the dental officer of the 117th Rifle Regt in Meiningen (5033N-1025E), [redacted] his own battalion had no dental officer, but the dental officer was accompanied by the junior medical officer [redacted] the dental officer only examined the teeth of those soldiers who asked for it. [redacted] 50X1

4. Medical Facilities

50X1 [redacted] the enlisted medic on duty had almost no medical facilities at his disposal. [redacted] all he had was an eyedropper which was used to administer both ear and nosedrops. The second company used to have a medical thermometer, but it was broken and never replaced and source and his fellow-soldiers were told by the medic to buy their own on the East German economy. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] Bandages and glass suction cups were available in the [redacted] 50X1

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medic's room, and a few pills. The glass suction cups were applied in the case of sore backs, but source never tried this procedure.

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[redacted] the battalion dispensary in MEININGEN three times and noticed a small table with instruments and medicine bottles, as well as two medicine cabinets. He had no further information on medical facilities.

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5. Medical Care

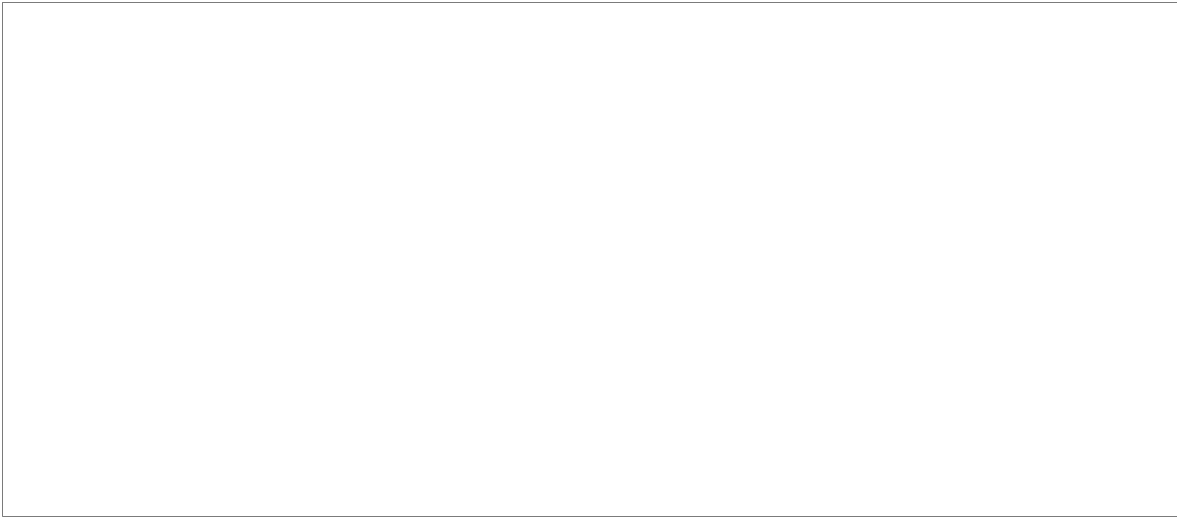


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6. Drinking Water

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[redacted] unit used the regular German drinking water of the city of SCHAFFHAUSEN. In 2d Co barracks were a total of eight faucets, three of which did not work. However, [redacted] had all the water they needed. The enlisted medic told soldiers not to drink the tap water and to use boiled water which had been prepared by the cooks and was kept in a large container in the barracks corridor. However, no one paid attention to this warning and everyone, including the officers, drank tap water. [redacted] did not recall any mention or issue of salt tablets at his unit. He remembered twice receiving some unidentified tablets for diarrhea [redacted]

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B. UNIT SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE

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[redacted] any supply depot or agency. He was only acquainted with the following supply procedures a [redacted]

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[redacted] received all its supplies [redacted]

1. POL

The battalion had one gasoline truck, a ZIS-150. From his company clerk, who accounted for all the fuel received by the company and then distributed it to the company drivers, [redacted] the gasoline truck came from battalion headquarters in MEININGEN and traveled in succession to the 3d Co, to the 2d Co, to the 1st Co, and finally back to MEININGEN. 3

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[redacted] had about five metal fuel tanks or drums, each holding from 150 to 180 Kgs. They were set into shallow holes, next to the road used by vehicles to enter the company area but outside the fence located to the west of the 2d Company area 4. The drums stood in an open shed and were covered by a roof covered with earth. They could be tilted so as to fill the gas tanks of company vehicles.

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The gasoline truck would come to the 2d Company and fill several of these tanks. [redacted] never were all five filled. [redacted] now often the battalion fuel truck came to the company. Each of the three company vehicles was limited with regard to the number of kilometers it could drive a month. At battalion headquarters the amount of gas needed by each vehicle to drive this distance had been calculated, and the 2d Co only received sufficient gas to drive the total number of kilometers allotted to the three vehicles. Each time the gas

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ration was received, the Company vehicles would be driven quite extensively. They were even used to take the soldiers [redacted] to and from border patrol duty. However, as the gasoline supply ran low, the company CO would restrict the driving of the vehicles to essential purposes only, and the vehicles would stand idle most of the time in the 2d Company garage.

There were, however, times when somehow the company obtained extra gasoline, [redacted]. He did, however, know of instances when there was still gasoline left after the vehicles had been driven the limit allotted to them. Then, [redacted] the Company CO would have the drivers set back the mileage indicator on the vehicles, so that they could keep on driving them on the extra gasoline without the battalion finding out that they had exceeded their driving limit.

2. Rations

Another Battalion truck, a ZIS-5, brought bread and meat [redacted] about every two days. [redacted] ride on this truck and knew that it was routed from Battalion headquarters successively to the 3d Company, to the 2d Company, to the 1st Company and back to battalion headquarters. Vehicles [redacted] drove to battalion headquarters on or about the first and fifteenth of each month to bring back such supplies as margarine, potatoes, cereal, and cabbage. The Company First Sergeant usually rode along on the truck and soldiers that had business at battalion headquarters also rode along. This was a common practice with all available transportation: for instance, source rode on the battalion meat and bread truck when he had to go to the hospital in ERFURT. Whatever cargo the 2d Company truck could not bring back from MEININGEN, the above-mentioned battalion meat and bread truck brought down the next time it came in.

3. Clothing and Other Supplies

Each spring and fall, [redacted] first sergeant would take a vehicle to battalion headquarters to bring back clothing. [redacted] how and when ammunition was brought down to his unit but was reasonably certain that the first sergeant went to battalion headquarters for everything, including ammunition.

a. Ammunition

[redacted] his company had an emergency reserve of ammunition [redacted]. The term NZ served to designate approximately ten boxes, about 1 x 1 feet, containing hand grenades and ammunition for carbines, SMG's and LMG's. These boxes were stored in the 2d Company supply room under the supervision of the first sergeant. During practice alerts, these boxes would be loaded on a truck. Once in 1954, [redacted] were training on the firing range, they discovered that the ammunition they were using was misfiring. The Company CO then ordered the first sergeant to fetch this emergency ammunition and added that they would replace it later when they received a new supply of ammunition. In the meantime, they fired with the NZ ammunition. The nine LMG gunners [redacted] each had an allocation of about 140 rounds, which were simply kept by the individual in the barracks together with the weapon. [redacted] that the allocation for each SMG was 142 rounds and for each carbine 60 rounds.

Regarding the allocation for LMG's, [redacted] origins each LMG was allotted six magazines, five loaded with a total of 235 rounds and one empty one for training. These too were kept right in the barracks. However, in Aug 54, this was decreased to three magazines and they were no longer fully loaded, so as not to strain the magazine springs. As a result source estimated that each LMG was allotted about 140 rounds. If LMG's were used for training, the first sergeant would issue extra ammunition for that purpose. All this ammunition was in the barracks and available to the soldiers at any time.

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[redacted] units of fire or battle supply for weapons but had forgotten the exact data. He believed, but was not certain, that for SMG's the "battle supply" for attack was three magazines, that for the carbine it was 300 rounds, and for the LMG 800 to 900 rounds.

b. Combat Rations

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About Sep 54, before the command inspection (inspektorskaya proverka) of the 2d Company in Oct 54, [redacted] received combat rations consisting of cans and crackers. They were not used, [redacted] the exact contents or amounts of these rations; and as far as he knew they were still in the kitchen supply room when he defected. [redacted] officers told the unit that these rations "would prevent their being caught unawares or unprepared (v rasplokh) by the enemy". They were also referred to as NZ or emergency rations by the company cooks;

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4. Transportation⁵

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a. Drivers Training

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[redacted] unit spoke about giving driver training to everyone but this was never implemented. The only training received [redacted] in connection with vehicles, was one single 1 1/2 hour training session during which the entire company was shown how to mount and dismount from the vehicles and how to present arms while riding in a truck. [redacted] never received any vehicle maintenance training.

b. Maintenance of Vehicles

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[redacted] company had no maintenance facilities for vehicles. Simple maintenance was performed [redacted] motor pool, but for complex repairs and maintenance (kapitalnyy - remont) the vehicles were taken elsewhere, [redacted]

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c. Horse-Drawn Transportation

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[redacted] unit had no horse-drawn transportation, and he did not remember seeing or hearsay of any horse-drawn Army transportation in Eastern Germany or in the USSR in recent years.

d. Transportation at Higher Echelons

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[redacted] never observed military railroad or convoy movements and had no information on this subject.

5. Weapons Maintenance

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For the repair of weapons, [redacted] unit had a weapons repairman (Ruzhmaster), a private, who could perform minor repairs. More complex repairs were performed at the battalion. Once or twice a month, the battalion weapons repair officer, a captain, accompanied by his two assistants, both privates, came down to the company to check the weapons. Only once [redacted]

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[redacted] did five weapons repair men come to the company from Eighth Army. This group included one senior lieutenant with artillery shoulderboards and four privates with black shoulderboards. They inspected very thoroughly all weapons and magazines [redacted]. They also numbered the parts of weapons by stamping them wherever such numbers were missing. [redacted] SMG bore the same number on the barrel, the barrel jacket, near the receiver lock, on the trigger guard, and on the magazine. [redacted] some weapons also had the number inscribed on the butt.) The Army weapons team remained about four to five days at the company.

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6. Rations

Typical summer rations at [redacted] were as follows:

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<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Dinner</u>	<u>Supper</u>
Hot cereal (one portion)	Soup	Potatoes
Bread (300 g)	Cereal	Vegetable or Fish
Tea with 15 g of sugar	Meat (50 g)	Bread (200 g)
	Bread (300 g)	Tea, with 15 g of sugar

The winter ration only differed in that it included 100 g more bread. Officially there were no special rations for holidays. However, [redacted] unit would try to procure a couple of sucklings pigs from the German population, fatten them and serve them on special holidays.

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C. SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT

The initial issue of individual equipment was made [redacted] at the unidentified military installation in the vicinity of Kamyshevo, 5650N-6340E. Other issues were made [redacted]

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Unless otherwise indicated in the Remarks column, the following items were issued at the basic training center in KAMYSHLOV. Items were retained on transfer from the center unless otherwise indicated.

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1. Items Other Than Clothing

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	SMG, PPSH-41 model			Used, with curved box clip and kit. Handed in [redacted] when leaving for East Germany. 50X1
1	Gas mask Shlem-1 model			Used. Handed in [redacted] when leaving for East Germany. 50X1
1	Shovel, small			Used. Handed in [redacted] when leaving for East Germany. 50X1
1	Mattress cover	Cotton	Black	These were stuffed with straw. Old ones were issued at Basic Training prior to departure, later turned in, and new ones issued upon arrival in East Germany.
1	Inside pillow case	Cotton	Black	Same as for mattress cover (above)
1	Outer pillow case	Cotton	White	Exchanged every 10 days at time of bath.
2	Sheets	Cotton	White	One exchanged every 10 days.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Blanket	Quilt	Blue	With dark blue borders. Old torn ones were issued at Basic Training Center and turned in prior to departure. New ones were issued in East Germany. These were not replaced, and they were even re-issued to new recruits if old owners were demobilized.
1	Fabric bag	Cotton	OD	Issued in East Germany for three years.
1	Meat can with or without top	Metal		Same as above.
1	Canteen with cover	Metal, cloth cover	OD	Same as above.
1	Steel Helmet			Issued in Jun 54 at SCHAFHAUSEN.
1	Cup			Issued in East Germany
1	Spoon			Issued in basic training.

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When arriving at 4th Company, 93d Sep Security Bn in BOCKSTADT at

_____ a used SMG (No 3984) with a circular magazine and cleaning kit. He also received _____ a used gas mask (No 0893); and on _____ he received a small shovel. _____

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_____ but about five days later he was reissued the same weapon from the _____ Company. _____ this procedure but said that it was also applied to about ten other soldiers. However, this SMG of his was defective and _____ he was issued another used SMG (No 447) by _____

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2. Clothing Items

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Garrison (overseas) cap	Cotton	OD	New. He received a new one in Apr 53 and another new one in Apr 54. Each fall _____ turned it back in to the first sergeant in exchange for the winter cap (see below). _____
1	Service hat with visor	Cotton	Khaki with khaki band and magenta piping around the crown of cap and around tops of band.	_____ issued this "lyrazhka" new about Sep 52. It was issued for three years and was worn for border patrol duty from spring until fall, but stored with the first sergeant during winter months. _____ other infantry troops in East Germany not belonging to Separate Bn's not patrolling the border, wore the same cap but with a wide magenta band topped by magenta piping. _____
1	Overcoat	Wool	Gray	New. Had magenta (infantry) shoulderboards with black piping as well as magenta collar flashes with black piping. Was double-breasted with hooks instead of _____

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
				buttons. Issued for three years.
1	Pullover tunic	Cotton	OD	Worn with infantry shoulderboards (see above). Exchanged for new one every six months.
1 pr	Breeches	Cotton	OD	New. Exchanged for new ones every six months. 8 50X1
1 pr	Boots	Canvas, top, leather and rubber bottom.	Black	Issued new but replaced by leather boots before [redacted]. The canvas boots he and other trainees turned in were re-issued to other soldiers not going to East Germany. The leather boots were twice replaced, in Apr 53 and in Apr 54. 50X1
1	Two-piece long underwear	Cotton	White	Replaced every 10 days at time of bath.
2 prs	Footwraps	Cotton	White	Issued for six months. If soldiers did not have old ones to turn in they would not receive new ones. 8
1	Towel	Cotton	White	Replaced every 10 days at time of bath.
2	Collar liners	Cotton	White	Issued for six months - expendable. 8
1	Handkerchief	Cotton	White	Same as above
1	Outer belt	Leather	Light brown	Issued for three years.
1	Trouser belt	Webbing	OD	Same as above
1	Flannel hat with earflaps	Came in quilt or cotton	Gray	With fur trimming in front and on earflaps. Issued each fall when garrison caps were turned in.
1 set	Long underwear (two-piece)	Cotton	White	Issued each fall for the winter period.
2 prs	Winter footwraps	Cotton	White	Same as above.
1 pr	Gloves	Cotton	OD	Same as above.
1	Canvas strap, to tie up overcoat	Webbing	Came in yellow, green, white	Issued for three years.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Short coat	Cotton	OD	Issued for three years in East Germany.
1	Dress Blouse	Cotton	Khaki	Double-breasted, one row of buttons issued in Mar 54 in East Germany. See note below on dress breeches.
1	Dress breeches	Cotton	Khaki	Issued with dress blouse mentioned above. These two items were at first used for guard duty in the immediate vicinity of the 2d Company area. They were always turned in to the 1st Sgt after use. After 25 Oct 54, for economy purposes and so they would not wear out too rapidly, they were only used for holidays and on special occasions. They could also be used by soldiers on their day off.

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D. MILITARY STORES

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[redacted] unit did not have a PX (Voyentorg). There was one at the 93d Sep Security Bn in MEININGEN which occupied one average-sized room. From Aug 52 to Nov 54, [redacted] went there only three times. It was open to all [redacted] personnel and their dependents. Merchandise sold there included the following: leather boots (200 East Marks), officers' topcoats (70 East Marks), low quarter shoes, corduroy jackets with zipper (65 East Marks), material, rugs (15 East Marks), accordions (400 East Marks), cigarettes (0.70 East Marks), better quality ones (Belomer[®]; 1.70 East Marks a package), thread, needles, collar liner (10 for 3 East Marks), envelopes (100 for 1 East Mark), pocket watches (poor quality, only worked for six months, 8 East Marks), soap (1 to 3 East Marks), and toothpaste. Source stated that all prices were lower than those prevailing in the USSR. He also believed that all merchandise, except cigarettes, was manufactured in East Germany.

Once a month a mobile PX on a truck was sent down [redacted] unit with goods from the battalion PX. It had the same items as the battalion PX but there was less choice and the quantities were limited. For instance, the rugs, which were very popular amongst soldiers ([redacted] unit, were only available in limited quantities of two or three. This mobile PX sold collar liners, needles, thread, toothpaste, stationery, soap, cloth which the soldiers would take to German tailors and have trousers made to take back to the USSR, and the above-mentioned rugs.

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Until May 54 this mobile PX was staffed by a sergeant from battalion headquarters. However, this sergeant was found to be 800 East Marks short in his accounts and was subsequently replaced by a German couple. Besides him, there was a driver, a Soviet private.

E. FINANCE

1. Pay of Private

[redacted] received 30 East Marks a month during his entire service, less 10 East Marks for the usual government loan, for a time. However, when [redacted]

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2. Pay of Squad Leader

50X1 [redacted] a squad leader, regardless of rank, received 50 East Marks and 50 rubles. These rubles were not paid out in cash but credited to the soldier concerned in a book, to be paid out only when the soldier returned to the USSR on home leave or 50X1 for demobilization. [redacted] the cash was paid out in BREST at the border.

3. Pay of Assistant Platoon Leader and LMG Gunner

50X1 [redacted] an assistant platoon leader, regardless of rank, received 75 East Marks and 75 rubles. A LMG gunner received 40 East Marks a month.

4. Officers' Pay

50X1 [redacted] any officers' pay scales, positively, but he believed that a platoon commander received about 600 East Marks a month. He was certain that officers received part of their pay in East Marks and part of it in rubles. He had also heard that if they brought their wives to East Germany, the wives received some pay.

5. Finance Procedures

Military personnel were paid once a month [redacted] between 50X1 the fifteenth and eighteenth day of each month. A finance officer (nachfin) brought the pay. He was a lieutenant or senior lieutenant with silver 50X1 shoulderboards, but [redacted] could not remember what the metallic device on his shoulderboards appeared to be. He would come in a battalion vehicle with a battalion driver, usually in the company of battalion officers who 50X1 were visiting [redacted] on other business. [redacted] the finance 50X1 officer did not belong to the battalion but he did not know where the latter came from. At times the finance officer would give the payroll to the 2d Company clerk, who in turn would pay the soldiers. At other times the finance officer would pay the soldiers in [redacted] himself. If the 50X1 finance officer paid, the soldiers would salute him and say: "Private----- present for pay" (ryadovoy takoyto pribil za dyenezhnim udovolstviyem). 50X1 In either case soldiers had to sign a paysheet.

Comment 7: Numbers were found listed in source's service book.

Comment 8: Contrary to [redacted] statement that this item 50X1 was issued every six months, the corresponding entry in his service record only indicated a yearly issue in Apr 53 and another one in Apr 54.

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