

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

Document No. 5

DATE:

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

INFO.

SUBJECT Iasi Air Base

☐ DECLASSIFIED

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

Date: 300378 By: 025

1. Field

Located northeast of Iasi (47°10'N, 27°35'E). The field cannot be seen from tram terminus or the highway to Manzatesti. From west to east the field is approximately 2,000 meters in length, and from north to south 1,500 meters. It could easily be enlarged to 3,000 meters on the north. A fighter base before 1944, it was transformed by the Soviets into a bomber base with a hard surface of pressed gravel. Complete system of illumination surrounds the field and operates from nearby buildings. Concrete strip in center of the south side of the field is approximately 500 meters by 60 meters. One fixed "T" is situated close to the concrete strip. Installations on the southwest are enclosed by concrete walls and barbed wire fences. The main entrance to the field is opposite the tram terminus on the Manzatesti highway, about 10 kilometers northeast of Iasi.

2. Capacity

The maximum capacity is 350 two-engine bombers. Until the 1944 Armistice the 1st Rumanian Air Reconnaissance Fleet with six reconnaissance squadrons was stationed here. The fleet was dissolved in 1945 and field taken over completely by Russians.

3. Aircraft

Marked activity was observed at the field. On 20 September 1946, 50 YAK-4 two-engine bombers, the same number of IL-2's bearing the 17th Air Army insignia, and 10 Rata's were stationed on the field. On the same day 30 LA-7 fighters of the 17th Air Army arrived from the east; 15 of these took off in an easterly direction after several hours. Also, three four-engine bombers, type TB-7, came in from the south, refueled and left in a westerly direction.

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4. Hangars

There are six hangars, each of steel construction, 2,000 square meters in area, with an entrance 40 meters wide and six meters high, and a height of ten meters. One is a repair hangar belonging to the ASAM workshop.

5. Personnel

There are unidentified new Soviet units which were transferred to field around 10 September 1946. Six different units allegedly have occupied field since beginning of 1946. Of these, two had been stationed previously in the Cernauti area (48°17' N, 26°0'E).

6. Operations Tower

The tower is connected with a mobile radio truck and trailer 40 meters away which is camouflaged by trees. The generator for the radio station is located about 30 meters southeast of the tower and provides current for the nearby telephone switchboard used entirely for air operations.

7. ASAM Workshop

The workshop is under Soviet jurisdiction but employs Rumanian technicians as well as Russian personnel. A total of 200 workers is employed. The shop comprises one section for major repair on precision instruments and automatic weapons, two repair shops for minor repair of aforementioned and one assembly shop where instruments are installed in aircraft. The ASAM plant has its own switchboard.

8. POL Dump

Located at the southwest corner of the field the dump is camouflaged by trees.

9. Ammunition Bunker

The ammunition bunker has two electric elevators and two emergency entrances on the north and south. The bunker, 25 meters by 15 meters in size, is allegedly 10 meters deep and divided into four chambers. A drainage system extends 200 meters south. Bunker contains a total weight of 15,000 kilograms of fragmentation bombs, incendiaries, AA and machine-gun ammunition. No separate bomb dump was observed.

10. Motor Pool

Sixty vehicles are assigned to the field. Of these, 12 gas trucks, four tractors, and ten other motor vehicles were observed on 20 September 1946.

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11. Billets

Officers live privately in Iasi while duty officers reside at headquarters, a two story building located about 30 meters south of the hangars. The enlisted men are in the former Russian prisoner-of-war camp west of the field; the capacity is unknown.

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