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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A

TOPIC KOETHEN Airfield

EVALUATION See below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT See below

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 30 November 1949

REFERENCES 25X1C [REDACTED] 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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25X1X

[REDACTED]

1. Forty single-engine aircraft, nine Boston-IIIs and seven biplanes were counted at the KOETHEN (N 52/D 95) airfield.

2. 7 October 1949

Forty-six single-engine aircraft, eleven Boston-IIIs and four biplanes were observed at the field.

3. Description of single-engine aircraft: Low-wing monoplane, in-line engine, three-bladed propeller, two-seat, one machine gun firing from cockpit to the rear, one cannon under each wing and presumably one cannon firing through the propeller hub.

4. From the arrangement of planes at the field it is concluded that five or six squadrons are stationed there. There was intensive flying on both days, including formation flying and low-level attacks at the field as well as firing at sleeve targets, and air combat. Work was being done at night in the hangars.

25X1C

25X1C

[REDACTED]

25X1AX

14 October 1949

5. The following aircraft were parked outside the hangars on the landing field of the KOETHEN airfield: Twenty-one single-engine aircraft with red propeller hub, twelve twin-engine bombers and eight twin-engine transports. The DEBBAN (N 52/E 06) power plant, between 10 and 13 October 1949, had to lay connection lines for eight heating generators which were to start the power plants in the hangars, occupied to capacity by single-engine aircraft.

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25X1C

- 25X1X
6. The tank trucks [REDACTED] were standing near the fuel dump at the airfield main entrance on the road to EDERITZ (N 52/D 95).

[REDACTED] 14 October 1949

7. No jet aircraft were parked at the field. The following aircraft types were seen:
- About fifteen Yak fighters with in-line engine.
 - Thirteen IL-10 ground attack aircraft.
 - Four twin-engine monoplanes. Double radial engine with rump, angular wings, single rudder assembly, elevator assembly in dihedral, nose wheel, glazed cockpit with cannon and rear gunner's station.
 - About 10 biplanes.
8. It was observed that air force officers at the field wore parachute insignia.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment:

a. The above information, supplied by three sources, concordantly reports the occupation of the KOETHEN airfield by A-20s. It is therefore assumed that the air reconnaissance regiment equipped with A-20s and Yak-3s is still stationed there.

b. The occupation of the field by IL-10 ground attack aircraft is considered credible since motor vehicle numbers assigned to ground attack units have been previously observed in KOETHEN. According to this report, [REDACTED] GROSSENHAIN were again observed in KOETHEN. It is assumed that at least one ground attack regiment from GROSSENHAIN was transferred to KOETHEN. 25X1B0a

c. The information in para 5 according to which the hangars are occupied to capacity by aircraft cannot be judged for lack of comparable reports. It is, however, possible that, besides those counted at the field, other planes were parked in the hangars.

d. This is the first information on officers at the KOETHEN airfield wearing parachute insignia. The insignia is identical to one observed in JUETERBOG and described in a previous report*. The presence of a parachute unit has not been confirmed.

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* [REDACTED]

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