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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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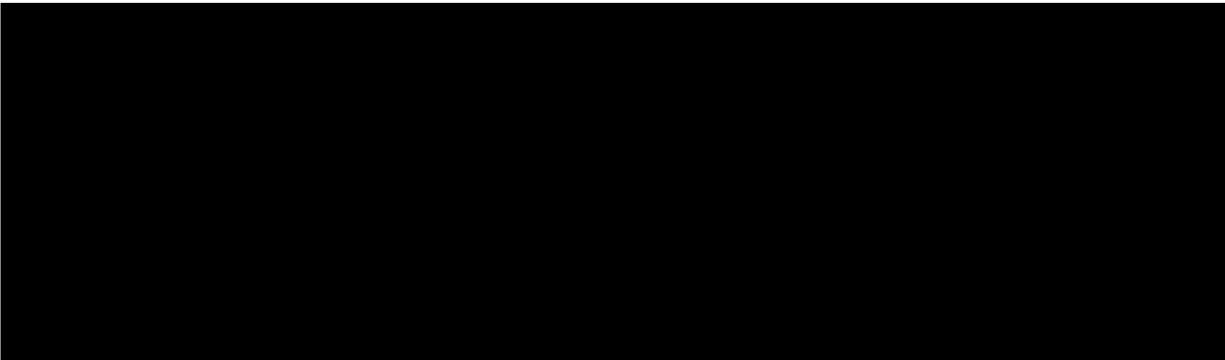


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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



1. Brno Airfield

a. There are no concrete runways or drainage facilities, but the airfield is surfaced with turf and is usable even after a very heavy rain. In winter, snow is removed only from the take-off and landing strips. The direction of the cleared strips depends on the wind direction. There are no plans to build new hangars or landing areas at this field, because a new airfield is to be built about one kilometer to the southeast of the old field.

b. The 3rd Air Division and the 7th and 8th Fighter Regiment are stationed at this field. The mail number is 201. The field is used for combat training of staff sergeants and lieutenants. Aircraft at Brno airfield include the following:

- 1) Messerschmitt 109                      about 40
- 2) Arado AR 96                             6-8
- 3) Siebel                                    2
- 4) Storch FI-2                             3
- 5) Bucker (low-wing monoplane)       4
- 6) Bucker (biplane)                    2
- 7) Piper                                    2

c. Personnel at the field includes:

- 1) Division C.O.:                      Major Pala, tall, stout, dark, with thick gray hair, 46 years old. He is a Communist Party member apparently under pressure.
- 2) Deputy Division C.O.:             Staff Captain Haering. He is now at Spilberk (sic).
- 3) 7th Regiment C.O.:                 Staff Captain Slama. He is now at Spilberk.
- 4) 8th Regiment C.O.:                 Staff Captain Truhlar. He is now at Spilberk.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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2. Mokrad Airfield

- a. This airfield has no concrete runways, and is inadequately drained. After a rain, only the area designated in the attached diagram, that is, an area about 800 m. by 1000 m. in the southeast corner of the field, is usable. No improvements are being made on the field at the present time.
- b. The airfield is not used for military purposes. There are no aircraft stationed there and the field is used only occasionally. The only personnel stationed at the field is a punitive labor detachment of about 84 aviation cadets under the command of Captain Moriz Ertel. This detachment was moved to the field from the villa of General Catlos, located about 1 1/2 km. to the southeast.

3. Valasske Mezirici Airfield

- a. The surface of the airfield is turf. There are no concrete runways, nor is the field drained. After a rain the field is usable only by light planes. Water drains off down the moderate slope of the field toward the highway to Valasske Mezirici.
- b. The three military aircraft at the field, Bucker biplanes, are used as flight trainers for pilots from a local garrison.

4. Olomouc Airfield

- a. The field is surfaced with turf and is not drained. Only the aprons are of concrete. A depression in the center of the field collects water after a heavy rain making the field unusable.
- b. As of the autumn 1948 there were at the Olomouc airfield an elementary flight training school and a separate training center for pilots destined to go to Palestine. There were about 40 Czech Jews in training under the command of a Czech captain. These trainees were mercenaries, not in the regular active service. After a three month training period at Olomouc in Bückers and Arados, they were transferred to other airfields for advanced training in Messerschmitts and Spitfires. Some went through the combat training school at Zatec flying Messerschmitt 262 jet planes. From advanced training centers these pilots flew directly to Palestine as lieutenants. All the courses in the elementary training center were kept secret. It was reported that these pilots were being trained for service in Palestine on direct orders from the USSR. English was used in control and inter-plane communications.

5. Sternberk Preparatory Aviation School

Students at the school are quartered on the second floor over the classrooms in the main building, a former gymnasium. The course consists of infantry training and flight theory. The commanding officer of the school is Major Mensik, an ardent Communist, short, stout, with graying hair, a round face and small eyes.

- Attachments: I Plan of Brno Airfield with legend.  
 II Plan of Mokrad Airfield with legend.  
 III Plan of Valasske Mezirici Airfield with legend.  
 IV Plan of Olomouc Airfield with legend.  
 V Plan of the Sternberk Preparatory Aviation School with legend.