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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 12 Sept. 1950

SUBJECT Reorganization of the Paramilitary Police

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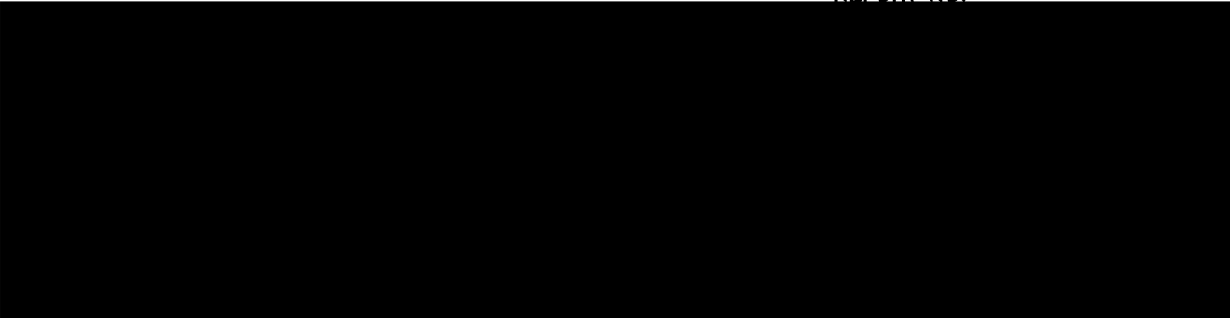
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. [REDACTED]



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1. The paramilitary police probably will not be converted into a People's Army nor will the Hauptverwaltung für Ausbildung (Main Administration for Training) (HVA) be made a defense ministry before 1 April 1951, unless the German Federal Republic organizes military units before that date.(1) and (2)
2. The beginning of the reorganization along conventional military lines, however, scheduled to take place upon completion of cadre training, has been advanced as a result of the Korean war. The first step is the formation of regiments from independent units of battalion strength. Evidences of action in this direction are found only among the infantry units. The other branches are not yet sufficiently trained or equipped. Training is behind schedule, particularly in the artillery and signal units. The armored elements have only a few T-34 and Mark-4 tanks. Another step in the reorganization is the present intensification of recruiting.(3)
3. An order of 15 July 1950 placed naval police units then being activated under a naval group command (Gruppen Kommando See).(4)
4. After 1 September 1950, the alert police will wear new field-gray uniforms, twelve thousand of which were issued on 23 July 1950. The naval police units will wear uniforms similar to those of the former German navy.(5)
5. Some high officers and former Luftwaffe personnel have been ordered to the Soviet Union for training since the beginning of the Korean war. About fifty officers and noncoms are now participating in Russian Army maneuvers in Silesia and are wearing Russian uniforms.(6)
6. [REDACTED] estimates the present strength of the paramilitary police at forty-five Bereitschaften, of approximately one thousand men each, and fifteen officer candidate schools of between one thousand and fifteen hundred men each. He believes that by 1951 cadres for an army of 150,000 will be trained and by 1952 cadres for an army of 300,000.(7)

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7. The present plan for conversion of the police into an army calls for a draft of the 1930, 1931, and 1932 age groups. Each group will yield approximately forty thousand men. The DDR authorities consider men born after 1933 to be completely reliable. (8)
8. Source claims that the table of organization for the People's Army, signed by Colonel Betsukov of the Russian Army, has been approved. This calls for the establishment of five group commands organized as corps, to be located one each in Potsdam, Schwerin, Dresden, Weimar and Halle. The commands are to be the headquarters of five military districts, each district embracing a state. (9)
9. Each corps is to comprise one armored and one motorized rifle division. The armored division is to have one medium tank regiment of three battalions, two mechanized rifle regiments of three battalions each and one artillery regiment of two battalions. It is also to have one mortar battalion, one engineer battalion, one armored reconnaissance battalion, one anti-aircraft battalion and one signal battalion.
10. General Chuikov in an order of 8 November 1949 fixed division strength at 20,000 men and authorized the corps to increase their 40,000 strength by 10,000 in an emergency by a short term draft of recruits and activists. The effective strength of the DDR People's Army is not to exceed 360,000 without sufficient reason. (10)

- 25X1A (1) **Comment:** The paramilitary police by 1 April 1951 will not be as strong or as well-organized as were the North Korean forces at the beginning of their offensive, but will probably equal the capabilities of the North Koreans by 1 April 1952.
- 25X1A (2) **Comment:** The reorganization of the paramilitary police is accepted as a fact, but it is felt that no change in designation will be effected in the foreseeable future because of the Potsdam Agreement and the propaganda effect of such a move.
- 25X1A (3) **Comment:** Expansion but not necessarily reorganization is definitely to be expected by the end of September 1950 when about 15,000 men will graduate from Bereitschaft schools. The present condition of the infantry units makes their development into regular military units before the other branches likely. Artillery and armored elements are in poor shape. Another source reports that the Bereitschaften have Mark-6 (tiger), SU-76 and SU-122 tanks as well as T-34/75s (sic).
- 25X1A (4) **Comment:** This is the first report received concerning the establishment of a Gruppen Kommando See. Naval units are presently being activated but are subordinate to the Hauptverwaltung Seepolizei (Main Administration of Marine Police) (HVS) which was established in June 1950.
- 25X1A (5) **Comment:** Another source reports that the paramilitary police are in the process of changing from dark blue to khaki uniforms.
- 25X1A (6) **Comment:** No information has been received from other sources concerning police personnel being sent to the USSR for training or on maneuvers with the Russian Army in Silesia. However, information has been received on the return of former high-ranking German military personnel, who have been in the USSR for a long time, to the Russian Zone of Germany to take training and command assignments with the police.
- 25X1A (7) **Comment:** Another reliable source gave evidence that as of 23 June 1950 there were forty Bereitschaften. A third and less reliable source claims that there are forty-two Bereitschaften in existence. The expansion of trained personnel by 1951 and 1952 to the numbers mentioned is considered possible but highly unlikely due to the shortage of equipment and already-trained personnel.
- 25X1A (8) **Comment:** Another source reports that men born between 1925 and 1933 have been directed to register at labor offices, though not by class. The same source estimates the 1930 class at 60,000 and the 1931 and 1932 classes at 57,000 each. There is no evidence to confirm the statement concerning the complete reliability of men born after 1933.

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25X1A (9) [REDACTED] Comment: The formation of five corps has been reported many times by other sources but without details. The headquarters sites mentioned would quite logically be corps headquarters for a DDR army. The organization of corps and divisions has also been frequently reported by other sources but without indication that they have been ordered into being. The present Bereitschaften could form the basis for this organization but their present disposition does not suggest the groupings indicated by this report.

25X1A(10) [REDACTED] Comment: In the light of the present situation these figures would seem to be much too high.