

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED] 25X1A

TOPIC Cottbus Airfield

25X1A

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

RETURN TO CIA

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

25X1A

LIBRARY

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 29 August 1950

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

*old
bags*

25X1X

SOURCE [REDACTED]

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1. Three low-wing monoplanes with two in-line engines and double rudder assemblies were parked in front of the hangars of the Cottbus (N 52/A 57) airfield between 10 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on 19 July 1950. (1) No flights were made. Soldiers in four or five-man groups, about 350 meters apart, trained with portable radio sets on the southern edge of the landing field. They wore red-bordered black epaulets.
2. The old E-W runway had been widened. About 350 laborers were extending the runway and landing field to the west. Tracks for diesel locomotives and dumpcars were beside this construction site. Work was being done on the subgrade of the runway. Light poles were only along the extended section. The old landing field was again serviceable because the construction sheds and tracks had been dismantled. (2) There were still piles of gravel, sand and crushed stones near the unloading facilities on the southern edge of the field. There was intensive activity here. Two gasoline tanks, each with an 18,000 to 20,000-liter capacity, were lying beside the loading ramp. They were apparently to be installed. (3) Individual construction firms had apparently been discharged since the number of construction workers had decreased.

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3. In late July 1950, a diesel engineer at the field said that the runway was to be completed on 1 September 1950 and a Soviet engineer battalion had arrived to do the last excavation work. (4) The German personnel of the Baunion-South Firm, now employed at the field, expected to be sent to Breslau (P 52/C 41) for airfield construction work. (5)

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Comments.

- (1) The airfield is still not occupied by an air unit. It was previously observed that individual planes, presumably transports or courier planes, occasionally landed at the field. 25X1A
- (2) The widening of the E-W runway was previously reported. [REDACTED] is now 60 meters wide. [REDACTED] the E-W runway is about 2,200 meters long. 25X1A
- (3) The installation of new fuel containers was reported in April 1950. See [REDACTED] 25X1A

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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 [REDACTED] of the Office of [REDACTED].

Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. [REDACTED]

No Change in Class

Declassified

Class. [REDACTED]

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- (4) The target date was previously reported. [REDACTED] It was anticipated to be from 1 September to 1 October 1950.
- (5) No information has been received on the construction of an airfield near Breslau.

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