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CLASSIFICATION

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

TOPIC: Volkspolizei in the Potsdam Area

25X1X [REDACTED]

25X1A [REDACTED] DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

25X1A [REDACTED] DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

25X1A [REDACTED] DATE RELEASED 21 September 1950

REFERENCES

2 ENCLOSURES

REMARKS

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25X1X SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. On 19 July 1950 the Ehrenforten Kaserne in Potsdam-Eiche (N 53/Z 63) was occupied by a VP unit. Eight German 105-mm guns belonging to the unit were in a shed in the billeting area.
2. Fifty VP men were policing-up the Ludendorff Kaserne in Potsdam at 7 p.m. on 7 July 1950. The barracks were not occupied by troops.
3. Two VP units of 150 police each marched from the Husaren Kaserne on Stalinallee to the athletic field at 10:30 a.m. on 21 July 1950. At the same time three groups, each of 70 police wearing fatigue uniforms, returned to the barracks from the athletic field.
4. About 250 police between 17 and 20 years of age were seen undergoing field training on the Pannenberg near Bornim (N 53/Z 53) at 9:30 a.m. on 10 August 1950. Under the supervision of five Soviet officers they practiced advancing in dispersed formation and moving into position. The Soviet officers wore Soviet uniforms and had a good command of the German language.
5. Two 30-man VP platoons marched from the Husaren Kaserne on Stalinallee to the target ranges at 10:30 a.m. on 11 August 1950. They were from 17 to 22 years of age. One platoon was armed with submachine guns with clip magazines and the other with model 98-K carbines. Each platoon carried two weapons, about two meters long, similar to the German bazookas.
6. On 11 August 1950 at 5 p.m., 150 unarmed VP men, coming from the direction of Krampnitz (N 53/Z 64), entered the Husaren Kaserne. They allegedly had received tank training at the Kavallerieschule in Krampnitz.
7. About 3,000 police, 17 to 22 years of age and organized into units of 150 men, marched along Charlottenstrasse at 1:30 p.m. on 12 August 1950. They came from the direction of the railroad station and went toward Luftschiffhafen to attend athletic games of the police. The men were excellently disciplined and wore new uniforms of drab-colored trousers and shirts,

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red-brown neckties and new boots. They were armed with model 98-K carbines but did not carry ammunition pouches. Brass bands and fife-and-drum corps preceded the units.

8. About 100 new ZIS and Horch trucks with WP number plates passed through Zeppelinstrasse and Charlottenstrasse en route to Stalinallee at 8:30 p.m. on 13 August 1950. They were occupied by VP personnel and stopped at the athletic field near the Husaren Kaserne. The police presumably were coming from the police games at the Potsdam stadium which had ended that evening.
9. About 300 police, 19 to 22 years old, held field exercises on Bronstedter Field about 2:30 p.m. on 10 August 1950. They were camouflaged with brush and practiced advancing by rushes or crawling and attacking in dispersed formation. They were armed with submachine guns. \*

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