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File 441

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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO. []

TOPIC Finow Airfield

25X1

25X1 EVALUATION []

PLACE OBTAINED []

25X1

25X1 DATE OF CONTENT []

25X1 DATE OBTAINED []

DATE PREPARED 17 October 1950

25X1 REFERENCES []

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REMARKS

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1. Twelve gray-brown jet fighters of an unknown type, 20 silver jet fighters with swept-back wings, 5 gray-green single-engine fighters with in-line engines, 4 steel-blue single-engine fighters with radial engines, and 2 biplanes were seen at the Finow (N 53/V 08) airfield on 19 September 1950. (1)
2. Description of aircraft:
 - a. Jet fighter of an unknown type: Air intake in nose, air exhaust in tail, mid-wing monoplane, leading and trailing edges of wings set at same angle, tapering wings, not swept back, wing tips rounded, very high rudder assembly set in tail pointing upward and to the rear, swept-back elevator assembly set in upper third of rudder assembly, nose wheel, tortoise-shaped cockpit beginning forward of leading edge of wings and extending about as far as mid-fuselage, front section of fuselage slightly shorter than tail section, weapon or antenna not identified. (2)
 - b. Jet fighter with swept-back wings: Air intake in nose, air exhaust in tail, mid-wing monoplane, leading and trailing edges of wings parallel to the rear, tips rounded, very high rudder assembly pointing upward to the rear and set above tail, swept-back elevator assembly in upper third, nose wheel, tortoise-shaped cockpit beginning forward of leading edge of wings and extending about as far as mid-fuselage, front section of fuselage slightly shorter than rear section; weapon or antenna not identified. (3)
 - c. Low-wing monoplane: In-line engine, wings tapering, leading and trailing edges set at same angle, spade-shaped rudder assembly, tortoise-shaped cockpit between wings. (4)
 - d. Low-wing monoplane: In-line engine, wings tapering, leading and trailing edges set at same angle, shape of rudder assembly not definitely identified, tortoise-shaped cockpit beginning in mid-wing and extending as far as behind trailing edges of wings. (5)

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3. The jet fighters with swept-back wings practiced flying at an altitude of about 2,000 meters between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. in cloudy skies with a visibility of about 5 km. (6) The planes took off in elements of two at intervals of about 10 minutes using a runway length of about 800 meters. The average flying time was 35 minutes. Flying started before 10 a.m. and was still going on at 5 p.m. The flights were always made by the same planes. Two aircraft were refueled from one tank truck within about 5 minutes.

4. One jet plane of the new type took off about 11 a.m. It was noticed that the plane was more maneuverable and that the noise of the turbine was considerably louder than that of the other jet fighters. A white vapor cloud emanated from the middle of the trailing edges of the wings while the plane was flying. Rockets or other devices were not identified in the wings.

5. Tank trucks [redacted] were in the eastern section of the landing field. Motor vehicle [redacted] left the field.

6. A radar set with two ears was in position north of the field. (7) The set did not rotate during flying. A tower, about 10 meters high, was about 100 meters southwest of the set. (8) Cables which connected the radar set with the tower were not distinguished.

[redacted] Comments.

(1) Report confirms the occupation of the field by fighters. It is known that two fighter regiments are stationed there. The two regiments were last confirmed in Finow on 27 and 28 September 1950 by other information. To date the two regiments have been equipped with LA-9s, Yak-3s or Yak-9s, Mig-15s and a few type-16 two-seater jet planes. The number of Mig-15s is estimated to be at least 50.

[redacted] The exact number of conventional fighters is not known but was apparently recently reduced and it is believed that most aircraft of this type were transferred. [redacted]

(2) A jet plane of the type described has not appeared before in the Soviet Zone of Germany. If the description is fairly correct the plane is probably type-15.

(3) The plane is a Mig-15.

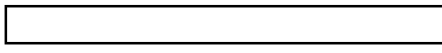
(4) The plane is probably a Yak-3 or Yak-9. The location of the pilot's cabin was not accurately observed.

(5) Probably a LA-7.

(6) Flying by one fighter regiment between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on 19 September 1950 was confirmed by other information.

(7) The radar set north of the landing field has been repeatedly reported. [redacted]

(8) The tower has not been reported [redacted] A similar tower was observed near the radar set in Grossschmin. The purpose of the tower is unknown. [redacted]



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