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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [ ]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

FLP 510

COUNTRY Europe (Soviet-Occupied and USSR)

DATE DISTR. 1 December 1950

SUBJECT OB Situation of Soviet Ground Forces

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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The strength and disposition of the Soviet ground forces in the Soviet-occupied countries of Europe remained constant during the weeks prior to mid-September 1950. It is still believed that 22 line divisions, 2 artillery divisions, and 9 AAA divisions are located in the Soviet Zone of Germany under the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GOFG); 3 line divisions and perhaps 1 AAA division in Austria and Western Hungary under the Central Group of Forces; 3 line divisions and perhaps AAA units in Rumania and East Hungary and 2 line divisions and 1 AAA division in Pomerania and Silesia, possibly under the Northern Group of Forces.

GERMANY

Order of Battle Data

1. Reports received during the period from 1 September to 1 October 1950 confirmed the overall OB situation of Soviet ground forces in the Soviet Zone of Germany up to the second half of September 1950.

2. The following units and rear services installations in the Soviet Zone of Germany, with [ ] location, and date of observation, were confirmed between 1 September and 1 October 1950:

a. CHQ Units of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GOFG).

Hq IV Arty Corps	[ ]	RATHENOW	15 August
Hq 6th Arty Div	[ ]	RATHENOW	15 August
An AAA Div (6th Gds?)	[ ]	CHEMNITZ-AUE area	End of August
An Engr Regt	[ ]	POTSDAM-MEDLITZ	18 August
53d Central Repair Shop	[ ]	BERLIN-OBERSCHONENWIDE	12 September
54th Central Repair Shop	[ ]	KIRCHHOEFER	2 September
123d Tank Repair Shop	[ ]	MUELLROSE	6 September
800th Ration Supply Dep.	[ ]	SATEKORN	1 September

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Main Clothing Depot	[REDACTED]	BERNAU	3 September
Main Medical Depot	[REDACTED]	FUERSTENWALDE	12 September
820 Ration Supply Depot	[REDACTED]	FRANKFURT/Oder	10 September
Main Fuel Supply Depot	[REDACTED]	VELTEN	5 September
A Repair Shop	[REDACTED]	WILDAU	7 September
Quartermaster Depot	[REDACTED]	SCHOENEBECK/ Elbe	5 September
<b>b. <u>Eighth Guards Army</u></b>			
Hq 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	[REDACTED]	RUOIS TADT	13 September
60th Gds Mtz Regt	[REDACTED]	HALLE	19 August
<b>c. <u>Third Shock Army</u></b>			
136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	[REDACTED]	BURG	6 September
890th Indep Engr Bn	[REDACTED]	TANGERMUENDE	5 July
Hq 19th Gds Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	WUENSDORF	10 September
623 Gds Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	WUENSDORF	1 July
Hq IX Mtz Rifle Corps	[REDACTED]	SCHWERIN	September
199th Gds Gun Arty Regt	[REDACTED]	WISMAR	September
74th (?) Tank SP Regt	[REDACTED]	SCHWERIN	September
Hq 18th Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	PERLEBERG	12 September
<b>d. <u>First Guards Mechanized Army</u></b>			
4th Gds AAA Div	[REDACTED]	DRESDEN- KONIGSBUCK- KAMENZ-AUE area	10 September
<b>e. <u>Second Guards Mechanized Army</u></b>			
66th Gds Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	NEURUPPIN	12 July
Hq 1st Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	DOEBERITZ	9 September
37th Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	DOEBERITZ	31 July
3d Tank Bn of the 37th Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	DOEBERITZ (?)	31 July
219th Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	DOEBERITZ	26 August
<b>f. <u>Third Guards Mechanized Army</u></b>			
Hq Third Gds Mecz Army	[REDACTED]	LUCKENWALDE	31 August
91st Gds RL Regt	[REDACTED]	TREBBIN	1 September
Hq 14th Gds Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	JUETERBOG	26 August
49th Gds Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	JUETERBOG	26 August
469th Gds How Arty Regt	[REDACTED]	JUETERBOG	22 March
70th Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	COTTBUS	31 August
A Hv Tank SP Regt of the 9th Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	SPREMBERG (?)	8 September
<b>g. <u>Fourth Guards Mechanized Army</u></b>			
Hq Fourth Gds Mecz Army	[REDACTED]	EBERSWALDE	27 August
Hq 6th Gds Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	BERNAU	26 August
63d Gds Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	BRANDENBURG	1 September
248th Gds RL Bn	[REDACTED]	KRAMPNITZ	19 September

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Movements.

3. a. The movement of the elements of the AAA Div of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army from FRANKFURT/Oder to EBERSWALDE, starting on 24 August 1950, was confirmed by additional reports.

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- b. About two light AAA regiments of the unidentified AAA Div of the GDFG, possibly the 32d AAA Div, moved from the billeting area of Altengrabow-Magdeburg to Kuestrin-Kietz in mid-August 1950. They were presumably assigned the mission of protecting the Oder River Crossings.

#### Field Exercises and Training.

##### 4. Division Training.

- a. All divisions which had gone to troop training grounds were confirmed up to mid-September 1950. Although no definite information on the training procedure is available, it is believed that training at at least regimental level was completed in the course of September 1950. Some reports contained indications that units would return to their home stations from the troop training grounds after the end of September 1950. For example, a report from Bernau stated that the post bakery returned and resumed operation in mid-September 1950; a report from Camp Born at Letzling Heath said that troops would start leaving on 25 September 1950; and a report from Saalfeld mentioned the arrival of an advance party of a component unit of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div on 8 September 1950.

- b. No large-scale maneuvers outside the troop training grounds, involving elements of more than one division, were observed prior to mid-September 1950. At the end of August 1950, it was reported that a third unloading ramp was quickly constructed in Belzig to facilitate the unloading of tank units from trains during the period from 23 to 28 September 1950. It is considered possible that troops will again hold large-scale fall maneuvers in the Burg-Genthin-Brandenburg-Belzig-Zerbst area, as they did in 1949.

- c. The rotation of tank and SP artillery elements of divisions of both the First Gds Mecz Army and the Eighth Gds Army for tactical training cycles at Letzling Heath, observed since 22 July 1950, continued throughout August and the beginning of September 1950. [redacted]

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[redacted] confirmed elements of both the 21st Gds Mecz Div and the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, at Letzling Heath and [redacted] the presence of elements of the 220th Hv Tank SP Regt of the Eighth Gds Army and elements of the 11th Gds Tank Div of the First Gds Mecz Army. [redacted]

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[redacted] the 8th Gds Mecz Div of the First Gds Mecz Army and the 20th Gds Mecz Div of the Eighth Gds Army were previously reported from Letzling Heath, it is believed that the tactical training cycles there affected elements of all divisions of the Eighth Gds Army and the First Gds Mecz Army. Other hitherto unidentified units from Jueterbog and Satzkorn, which were unloaded at the Letzling Heath detraining points of Wolmirstedt and Colbitz between 19 and 25 August 1950, may have been headquarters units of both the Third Gds Mecz Army and the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

- d. According to numerous reports, most of the elements of the 1st Mecz Div, the 9th Gds Tank Div and the 12th Gds Tank Div of the Second Gds Mecz Army, the 10th Gds Tank Div of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, and the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div of the Third Shock Army continued training at their posts during August and September 1950. But they also detached some units for short periods of training in other areas. Specifically the following information supports the above:

- (1) As in June and July 1950, component units of the 1st Mecz Div were also entrained at the Dallgow-Doeberitz railroad station in August 1950, presumably for short training cycles in the Werder-Markendorf and Altengrabow maneuver areas, from where trains returning to Dallgow-Doeberitz were observed in late August 1950.

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- (2) Several reports indicate that elements of the 9th Gds Tank Div from Neustrelitz and Neubrandenburg held major field exercises in the area north of Mirow and at Mueritz Lake during the first half of August 1950. Reports on rail movements indicated that elements of this division went to the Luckenwalde training area on 20 August and returned to their post on 26 August 1950 upon completion of short field exercises. Units of the 9th Gds Tank Div from Neustrelitz and Neubrandenburg left for field exercises on 19 September 1950 and the days following. Only guard details remained in Neustrelitz. Another report indicated that the units started a field exercise, allegedly lasting five days, in the area south of Zehdenick on 24 September 1950.
- (3) Trains moving from Jueterbog and Altengrabow to Neuruppin in late August 1950 presumably carried rocket launcher and mortar components of the 12th Gds Tank Div, which returned to their post upon completion of a short practice period in the Jueterbog and the Altengrabow areas.
- (4) Since motorized columns of the 10th Gds Tank Div were seen in the Luckenwalde area in late August 1950, and since a train carrying tanks of this division traveled from Rathenow toward Brandenburg on 7 September 1950, it is believed that component units of the 10th Gds Tank Div held short training exercises in the area south of Rathenow and in the Luckenwalde area in late August and early September 1950. Five trains going from Rathenow to Satzborn and one train bound for Altengrabow in late August and early September 1950 may have also carried elements of the 10th Gds Tank Div. Other component units of this division were engaged in field exercises at the nearby Doeberitz troop training grounds at the end of August 1950.
- (5) Component units of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div held field exercises in the area south of Wismar and in the area south of Schwerin-Ludwigslust at the end of August and the beginning of September 1950.
- e. Other field exercises, primarily involving elements of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div from Stendal and Gardlegen, were conducted in the area south of Salzwedel in late August and early September 1950. Tank exercises in the area west of Baruth in early September 1950 were presumably held by troops from the Werder-Markendorf maneuver area.
- f. Since a rocket launcher unit was seen on a train going from Jueterbog to Neuruppin on 24 August 1950, and since rocket launcher elements of the 11th Gds Tank Div and the 8th Gds Mecz Div were observed on a southbound train passing through Dessau on 26 August 1950, it seems possible that rocket launcher elements of several divisions may have been concentrated at Jueterbog about the middle of August 1950, possibly to fire for record.

5. Special Exercises

- a. GHQ artillery units and headquarters artillery units of armies.

25X1 [redacted] elements of the two GORF artillery divisions and headquarters artillery units of the Third Shock Army were at Altengrabow at the end of August 1950. Several reports indicated that artillery components of the unidentified AT Arty Brig, possibly the 3rd Gds AT Arty Brig, of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps from Bernburg were rotated to an artillery range, presumably Altengrabow, during the second half of August 1950. Following the return of artillery units of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig of the unidentified Arty Div to their Potsdam post from Altengrabow in mid-August 1950, the entire brigade moved back to the Altengrabow range on 6 September 1950, possibly to remain there until about mid-October 1950.

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b. AAA units.

AAA units were still observed arriving at, and departing from, the Wustrow Peninsula up to mid-September 1950. On 17 September 1950, for example, AAA components of the 2d Gds AAA Div were observed on a Wustrow-bound train.

c. Engineer units.

Engineer components of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div and of the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GDFG were confirmed at the Bittkau engineer training area in mid-August 1950.

Engineer elements of both the 19th Gds Mecz Div and the 194th Gds Mtz Rifle Div were at Bittkau at the end of August 1950. Upon completion of their training at the Jungfern Lake engineer training area of the Potsdam post, all elements of the unidentified engineer regiment of the GDFG from the Delius Kaserne, Potsdam, moved to the Elbe River for further exercises at the beginning of September 1950. Elements of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div held engineer exercises at Mirla on the Terra River in mid-August 1950. It is considered possible that the Eighth Gds Army divisions staying at the Kindel troop training grounds sent their engineer components to Mirla for special training.

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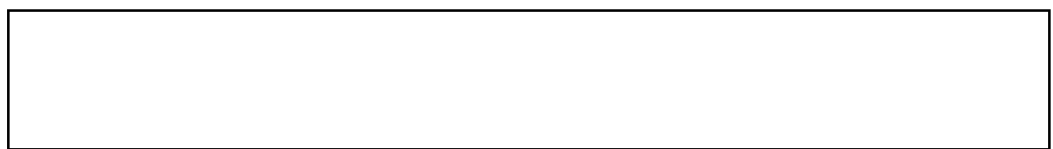
Personnel.

6. No changes in personnel of the Soviet units in the Soviet Zone of Germany were observed during the period covered. However, an order issued by the Berlin regional railroad headquarters indicated that seven 47-boxcar shuttle trains had to be made available between 19 and 25 September 1950. The boxcars had to be capable of long-distance runs, winterized, and converted for the transportation of troops. It can therefore be expected that new recruits from the U.S.S.R. may arrive in the Soviet Zone of Germany at and after the end of September 1950. In that event, it is believed that the recruits will primarily be personnel of the 1930 class which was inducted in the U.S.S.R. in May and June 1950.

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Should the incoming recruits include personnel of the 1931 class, too, they presumably will be lower-grade secondary school graduates. It remains to be seen whether, simultaneously with the arrival of the recruits, trained troops will be sent back to the U.S.S.R. for demobilization. There are certain indications that this might be so. Groups of about 40 soldiers each arrived in Bad Freienwalde from a troop training grounds on 12 September 1950, and the Cottbus railroad car maintenance shop was ordered to equip 200 boxcars, that is four trains, for the transportation of troops. The trains were officially designated as "demobilization trains".

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Supply.

8. A report on the Soviet supply installations in the Soviet Zone of Germany is forwarded separately. \*

Transportation.

9. Because of the beginning of harvest shipments in conjunction with unreduced Soviet demands on transportation space for troop movements and reparations deliveries, the transportation situation during the reported month was more critical than in August 1950. Transit traffic across the six border crossing

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points on the Polish border and Bad Schandau on the Czech border continues to be normal.

10. The stocks of locomotive coal on hand at the individual railroad stations continue to rise. [redacted] the consumption of fuel and lubricants revealed that an average of 18,320 metric tons of hard coal and brown coal briquettes is being used daily.

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11. Construction projects.

- a. The construction of a railroad line between Loewenberg and Eberswalde, a distance of 40 km, is planned. Survey work is already in progress. The new line, which bypasses Berlin to the north, would establish a new East-West connection between Frankfurt/Oder or Kuestrin, and Hamburg via Wittenberg.
- b. The reconstruction of the important single-track cross connection between Frankfurt/Oder and Kuestrin is progressing. Except for the bridge across the "Old Oder" north of Reitwein, this project is completed.
- c. The Neisse River bridge near Guben is to be closed because it is no longer considered to be safe for traffic. Traffic is to be rerouted via the Forst border crossing point.
- d. The parts of the railroad bridge across the Peene River near Karnin which are not in use are being dismantled for use at some other place. This bridge is on the dismantled Ducherow-Swinemuende line. This indicates that reconstruction of this line is not planned in the foreseeable future.

12. a. The reorganization and/or reduction of the locomotive columns operating for the Soviets was confirmed by further information.
- b. Special routelines and coaling stations were agreed upon for the Soviet transit traffic through Poland, insofar as it is handled by German locomotive columns. This traffic will henceforth be restricted to three routes which lead via the Kuestrin-Kietz, Frankfurt/Oder, and Guben border crossing points.
  - c. Grain shipments from the U.S.S.R. to the Soviet Zone of Germany were handled from the end of July to the end of August 1950 by the employment of special grain shuttle trains. It is believed that these grain shipments are for the supply of both the occupation troops and the German population.
  - d. Loading facilities such as loading ramps, cranes, loading tracks, approach roads etc., in the Cottbus railroad district had to be reported. This is a purely military measure. It is believed that similar reports had to be turned in all over the zone, however, this has not yet been confirmed.
  - e. [redacted] 11,734 railroad tank cars were available in the Soviet Zone of Germany on 17 August 1950. Of these, approximately 3,000 are reportedly reserved for the shipment of benzine and benzol. Because the turn-around time of tank cars is so long, there is a shortage of this type of car.

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AUSTRIA - WESTERN HUNGARYTraining Areas.

13. Reports from several military posts indicated that the component units of both the 13th Gds Mecz Div and the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which had moved to the Doellersheim troop training grounds were still there by the end of August and the beginning of September 1950. It is possible that some elements of the 13th Gds Mecz Div may have returned to their posts in mid-September 1950.
14. The AAA components of the GHQ AAA unit, possibly the 23d AAA Div or Regt, in Korneuburg were still at their post in mid-September 1950. No information has been received from the Apetlon training area.
15. Reports on the 17th Gds Mecz Div in Western Hungary have not been received.

RUMANIA - EASTERN HUNGARY

16. The Soviet troops observed in the Slatina (R 33/B 24) area on 20 July 1950 had been engaged in field exercises in that area under the direction of two generals. They were later entrained at the Rosiorii de Vede (R 33/B 70) railroad station, most of them leaving eastwards. The troops, whose identity is not known, may have belonged to the Soviet division which is carried in the Constanta area.

17. [redacted] the arrival of several thousand Soviet troops in Goedoelloe (Q 48/H 73), 12 km northeast of Budapest, at the end of August 1950. The report failed to give any indications as to the type, assignment or previous billeting area of these troops. Therefore it is not known whether they were replacements or new units coming to Hungary, possibly from the U.S.S.R. Since little information was received from Rumania and Eastern Hungary [redacted]

18. A new railroad ferry across the Danube River was opened between Calafat, Rumania, and Vidin, Bulgaria, on 1 August 1950. The ferry establishes a new railroad connection between the two countries. Its reported capacity of 30 railroad cars surpasses that of the other railroad ferry between Glurgiu, Rumania, and Ruse, Bulgaria, by 50 percent. The new railroad ferry can handle 10 to 12 trains in a 24-hour period.

POLAND

19. [redacted] Soviet troops had left the barracks for an unknown destination in mid-August 1950. [redacted]

[redacted] Soviet troops arriving in Lodz on 3 July 1950, it is considered possible that a small Soviet unit may have been located in Lodz in the summer of 1950 and left in the middle of August 1950.

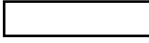
20. [redacted] about 3,000 Soviet troops with tanks and artillery arrived in the Siedlce area from Brest Litovsk in late August and early September 1950. The location of Soviet troops in the Siedlce area is not unlikely [redacted]

[redacted] Soviet troops in the area of the Brest Litovsk railroad station and yards at the end of August 1950, but [redacted] they were no longer there in the middle of September 1950.

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21. A report on the ammunition depot at Kotzenau (O 52/B 64), Silesia, specified that the depot was subordinate to a high-echelon headquarters in Liegnitz.

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23. At the beginning of July 1950 several railroad cars were made available at the Luckenwalde railroad station and placed at the disposal of Lieutenant General V.A. Mitrofanov, CinC of the Third Gds Necz Army. On 10 September 1950 the Soviet newspaper Trud reported on a speech given by Lieutenant General Mitrofanov in Leningrad on the occasion of Armored Forces Day. It is possible that Mitrofanov may have been reassigned to the Hq of the Leningrad MD in July 1950.



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