

CONFIDENTIAL

RETURN TO

OCD

FLD 453

CLASSIFICATION SECRET 25X1 25X1A

COUNTRY Rumania REPORT NO. []

TOPIC Rumanian Fall Maneuvers of 1949

EVALUATION [] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [] 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 15 August to 28 September 1949

DATE OBTAINED [] 25X1 DATE PREPARED 22 December 1950

REFERENCES []

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1A 25X1

REMARKS []

25X1X

General.

- 1. The 1949 fall maneuvers of the Rumanian Army were conducted in two phases, and lasted from 15 August to 28 September 1949.

First Maneuver Phase.

- 2. The first phase of the maneuvers, lasting from 15 August to 15 September 1949, consisted of a number of demonstration exercises at battalion, regimental and division level. The purpose of these exercises was to familiarize the troops with the new Soviet combat doctrines.
- 3. The maneuver area was bounded by the line Fagaras (R 35/R 80)-Halmeag (R 35/S 00)-Comana (R 36/S 00) - Homorod (R 36/S 12) - Palos (R 36/S 03) - Apold (R 36/R 72) - Altina (R 36/R 41) - Noerich (R 35/R 41).
- 4. The planning, conduct and supervision of the field exercises were performed by the Army Training Center, the headquarters of which was located in Cincul Mare (R 36/R 71). Elements of the training center were stationed in Fagaras. The director headquarters for the maneuvers was headed by Lieutenant General Nicolae Cambrea, who was aided by Colonel Visan, (fnu), functioning as chief of staff. The temporary chief umpire was Lieutenant Colonel Vladescu, (fnu). Major Ivanciu, (fnu), of the Army Training Center, was in charge of the simulated artillery fire, for which electrically ignited trinitrotoluol charges were used. *
- 5. The demonstrations at battalion level were performed by the regiment of the Army Training Center from Fagaras. The demonstrations at regimental and division level were done by the 2nd Mountain Div from Brasov (R 35/X 37), the infantry division from Focsani (R 45/X 58), one tank company of the 1st Tudor Vladimirescu Tank Div and some aircraft of an AF regiment from Brasov. The tank company was equipped with old German model IV tanks. About 200 reserve officers were observed with the two divisions mentioned. **
- 6. The demonstrations included the tactical movements of infantry battalions and regiments in the offensive and the defensive, and the advance of troops under heavy artillery fire, with all infantry components of the two divisions participating in the latter exercise. The demonstrations were held in the 32-square kilometer training area of the Army Training Center, north of Cincul Mare. The demonstrations

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET 25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified
 Class. []
 Auth. []
 200457R006801400009-1

9

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

25X1A

that followed included an attack against prepared defensive positions, conducted by the 2nd Mountain Div and the infantry division from Focsani in the area west of Cincul Mare; a meeting engagement involving an infantry division; and a stream-crossing exercise at division level, held on the Olt River east of Fagaras. The latter exercise was attended by about 200 officers who were subsequently detached to the U.S.S.R. for further military training.

Second Maneuver Phase.

7. The second phase of the maneuvers, lasting from 20 to 28 September 1949, included two army corps. The blue corps, simulating the enemy, was retreating from the southeast to the northwest from the Targu Mures (R 36/R 68) area. Facing toward the southeast, it occupied three successive defensive positions, the first along the Niraiu River and the valley of the Tarnava Mica River, the second along the Mures River and the third along the Komloda River. The corps was attacked by the red corps, starting from a position southwest of Targu Mures. The maneuver ended when both corps reached the Komloda River.
8. The maneuver was directed by Lieutenant General Alexandru Gavrilesco, commanding general of the 2nd MD. Colonel Munteanu, (fnu), was in charge of supply operations. The group of umpires included Lieutenant General Nikolae Cambrea; Major General Mircea Paulian; Major General Opris, (fnu), Bucharest military post commander; Lieutenant Colonel Tarulescu, (fnu), of the Army Training Center; Lieutenant Colonel Puiu, (fnu); Lieutenant Colonel Moraru, (fnu); and Captain Corleanescu, (fnu), of the Higher Political Directorate at the Ministry of Defense. A total of about 200 officers served as umpires. Four Soviet generals and 8 to 10 Soviet colonels, including Colonel Zergenko, (fnu), were attached to the director headquarters as advisors. ***
9. The blue corps was made up of the Rumanian Mountain Corps with the 1st Mountain Div from Targu Mures and the 2nd Mountain Div from Brasov. The red corps consisted of an army corps of three infantry divisions, of which only the infantry division from Focsani was known. In addition, a small number of tank troops and some aircraft participated in the maneuver. The bulk of the tank units involved in the exercise were only simulated. They did not exceed brigade level. All units engaged in the maneuvers had arrived by rail. No new Soviet materiel was observed with the troops.
10. The final critique was held in the theater auditorium of Targu Mures. It was attended by all regular and reserve officers down to an including captains. A short review of the maneuver, delivered by Lieutenant General Alexandru Gavrilesco, was followed by a five-hour critique held by Minister of Defense Bodnaras, who proved himself to be an expert general staff officer.
11. In general, the maneuver was rated a successful performance. The operational decisions taken by the field commanders of the red and blue corps led to lively discussions regarding the interpretation of the manual of Combat Doctrines for Major units.

- 25X1A [] Comment. The Army Training Center has long been known to be located in the former Fagaras Comitate. [] Large-scale maneuvers were held there annually. Cambrea was known as the commanding general of the training center until the beginning of 1950. He has allegedly retired. []
- 25X1A [] Comment. According to a report of June 1950, the Tudor Vladimirescu Tank Div has been equipped with Soviet T-34 tanks, delivered from the U.S.S.R. in late 1949 and early 1950. []
- 25X1A [] Comment. Generals Gavrilesco and Opris were confirmed in their positions. A General Munteanu was identified as deputy commander of the 2nd MD in May 1950. [] He is probably the colonel mentioned in the present report. According to Rumanian newspapers of 1949, General Paulian was chief of the Higher Cavalry Directorate at that time.

25X1

~~SECRET~~**CONFIDENTIAL**