

CONFIDENTIAL
Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC: Soviet Ammunition Depots in the Soviet Zone of Germany

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 6 September 1951

REFERENCES

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PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Altengrabow.

1. At the beginning of April 1951, [redacted] about 80 German workmen were employed at the Soviet ammunition depot in Altengrabow (M 53/Z 00). The depot commandant was a major who was assigned 12 officers and about a company of soldiers. (1)
2. Only small amounts of ammunition were stored at the depot during the winter of 1950/1951. However, four large trains with ammunition arrived there during March. One of the trains came from Brest Litovsk and carried 125-mm, 150-mm, and 210-mm shells on 63 boxcars. (2)
3. Ammunition was armed at Altengrabow rather than manufactured. A certain percentage of shells stored at the depot was always ready for use, with further amounts of shells made ready as needed. (3)

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Buckau-Pransdorf.

4. In early April, [redacted] the former German Air Force ammunition depot at Buckau-Pransdorf (M 53/Z 11) was operated by Soviet soldiers. Only a few German workmen were employed there and their movement was very restricted. The depot was heavily guarded by Soviet soldiers. (3)

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Cottbus.

5. On 9 May, [redacted] a Soviet ammunition depot was housed in four buildings of the former Artillerie Kaserne in Cottbus (M 52/A 57). The buildings are bordered by the extensions of Vetschauerstrasse, Grenzstrasse, Torgauerstrasse and Sachsen-dorferstrasse. On 9 May, boxes measuring about 60 x 100 x 50 cm were unloaded there from several trucks. (4)

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Document No. 8
 No Change in Class.
 Declassified
 Class. Changed To: TS S (C)
 Auth.: NS 7 2
 Date: 21 AUG 1978

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Frankfurt/Oder-Boossen.

6. On 19 April, [redacted] a Soviet ammunition depot 50X1-HUM was located near Boossen (O 53/V 53)- Rosengarten. (5) Trucks seen between Frankfurt/Oder and the Rosengarten ammunition depot [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] (6)

Frankfurt/Oder.

7. In the afternoon of 20 April, three-ton trucks [redacted] were seen entering the Soviet ammunition depot on Schubertstrasse, Frankfurt/Oder. (7) Boxes, about 30 x 40 x 20 cm and 50 x 40 x 20 cm. were unloaded from the trucks. Trucks [redacted] passed through the northern side gate of the depot at the same time. (6)

Perleberg.

8. On 27 April, the Soviet ammunition depot at Spiegelhagen near Perleberg (N 54/T 70) was still heavily guarded. (8) On the same evening, the guard detail there was relieved by another group of soldiers who arrived on a truck [redacted]

[redacted] (6)

Rathenow.

9. Between 15 and 18 April, ammunition was being unloaded at the former German ration supply depot on Mittelfeldweg, Rathenow (N 53/Z 15), from trucks [redacted] 50X1-HUM which allegedly came from Wulkow. Persons who had access to the depot stated that about 6,000 x 120-mm shells and large amounts of 40-mm AA shells were stored there at the time of observation. (9)

Wulkow.

10. Between 16 and 24 March, only light vehicular traffic was observed at the Soviet ammunition depot at Wulkow (N 53/Z 49). [redacted] about 30 railroad 50X1-HUM carloads of artillery ammunition arrived at the depot from the east during that time. The shells were of Soviet origin, weighed from 15 to 20 kg [redacted] One 50X1-HUM Major Mikhaelov, (fnu), has allegedly been the depot commandant since 1949. (10)

11. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

12. Since 12 German workmen employed at the depot received discharge notices in mid-March, and 7 German female workers were discharged at the end of May, the German work force was reduced to about 25 after that time.

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Comments.

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- (1) The information confirms the large Soviet ammunition depot in the former German Army ammunition depot at Altengrabow.
- (2) Boxcarloads of ammunition which arrived at the depot in March 1951 included 32 from Brest Litovsk on 11 March, 29 from Brest Litovsk on 11 March, 15 from Hohenleipisch on 13 March, 14 from Wulkow on 13 March, 21 from Dannenwalde on 16 March, and 10 from Topochin on 17 March. Shipments of ammunition continued to arrive in April, May and June 1951. The rate of incoming shipments in July 1951 has not been determined. It is doubted that a train of 63 cars with ammunition could have arrived at the depot, as is stated in the present report as its weight would have exceeded the maximum load limit. The train may have included from 10 to 15 empty crash cars, in accordance with the regulations, or may have been mistaken for two smaller trains, such as the two trains which arrived from Brest Litovsk on 11 March.
- (3) A large ammunition depot, probably of the Soviet Air Force, 50X1-HUM
[redacted]. It frequently receives large ammunition shipments from the U.S.S.R. via Brest Litovsk and Frankfurt/Oder.
- (4) The ammunition depot is reported for the first time. It may be a small organizational installation which is housed in the heavily damaged Artillerie Kaserne.
- (5) A former German military post ammunition depot, taken over by 50X1-HUM the Soviets in the spring of 1949 and enlarged by 3 low brick buildings, 20 x 5 x 2 meters. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- (6) Motor vehicle [redacted] 50X1-HUM
Paragraphs 8 and 7 32d AAA Div of the GOFG and 7th Gds Meez Div of the Fourth Gds Meez Army
Paragraph 8 18th Meez Div of the Third Shock Army
Paragraph 11 12th Gds Tank Div of the Second Gds Meez Army
- (7) Probably a small organizational depot which is located south of the Hofbauer Kaserne.
- (8) The post ammunition depot on the former drill field of Spiegelhagen, north of Perleberg. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- (9) Confirms the ammunition depot at the Rathenow-Nord railroad 50X1-HUM Station, the railroad spur of which was repaired in June 1950.
[redacted] Wulkow is the location of a large Soviet ammunition depot which is housed in a former German Army ammunition depot. See paragraphs 10 through 12 of the present report. 50X1-HUM
- (10) Confirms the large ammunition depot. [redacted] of the Second 50X1-HUM Gds Meez Army
[redacted] rail movements, shipments of ammunition arriving at the depot from Brest Litovsk included 12 boxcars on 16 February, 8 boxcars on 26 March, and 14 boxcars on 31 March. Major Mikhailov (fnu) is reported for the first time. [redacted] Major Karpov (fnu) was depot commandant from 1948 to August 1949, and Lieutenant Colonel Shlappnikov (fnu) from August 1949 to March 1950. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] 50X1-HUM

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