

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg 25X1

EVALUATION [redacted] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 15 February 1952

REFERENCES [redacted] 25X1

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

1. [redacted] Lieutenant Colonels Steppaniyeshen (fnu), Petrovets (fnu), Makin (fnu), Skaruppa (fnu) and Ziyemakin (fnu) (all names spelled phonetically) were the administrative officers of the units quartered in the rear section of the SS Kaserne at Oranienburg (N 53/Z 77) in mid-January 1952. Ten T-34 tanks, [redacted] were seen entering the SS Kaserne on 7 January. Another 10 T-34 tanks, [redacted] entered the billeting area on 11 January. At the target range, soldiers were seen firing small arms from the turret and the forward hatches of [redacted]. The number of gates on the north side of the former concentration camp (ammunition dump) had been increased to 11 by early January. (1)
2. On 9 January, trucks [redacted] each carrying five soldiers and towing a 76-mm field gun left the restricted Weisse Stadt area. Gunfire was heard on the same day from the Borgsdorf Forest between Highway No 96 and Pinnower Schleuse. A convoy of six trucks, including three towing 76.2-mm field guns and carrying 20 soldiers each, left the restricted Weisse Stadt area on 15 January. [redacted] Caterpillar tractors [redacted] each carrying 20 soldiers, left the restricted area on 22 January. Two of them towed one 100-mm AT gun each. In early January, source determined that Lieutenant Colonel Knochkov (fnu), commanding officer of a 76.2-mm AT artillery regiment, was still serving as regimental commander despite previous rumors regarding his reassignment to the U.S.S.R. Lieutenant Colonel Slobodnik (fnu) was the political officer of the above mentioned AT artillery regiment. (2)
3. In early January, [redacted] the Oranienburg castle would be rebuilt in the spring of 1952 and that 675,000 eastmarks have been appropriated for this purpose. Radio truck [redacted] with an extended antenna, 10 meters high, [redacted] in the yard of the castle. (3) Two T-34 tanks, including [redacted] were entrained at the Oranienburg freight yard on 9 January. (1)

CLASSIFICATION CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

Document No. 5

No Change in Class.

Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS **3** **(C)** 25X1

Auth: HR 70-2

12 SEP 1978

By [redacted]

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY [REDACTED] 25X1

- 2 -

[REDACTED] 25X1

Security Information

- [REDACTED] 4. On 9 January, T-34 tanks [REDACTED] were seen moving cross 25X1
country on the training field along the road from Sachsenhausen
25X1 to Friedrichsthal, north of Oranienburg. T-34 tank [REDACTED] was seen 25X1
at the same field on 11 January, and T-34 tanks [REDACTED] 25X1
were seen on 15 January. About 200 troops wearing red-bordered
black epaulets with tank insignia and carrying rifles received
field training along the railroad embankment north of the
Sachsenhausen railroad station on 10 January. The troops primarily
simulated offensive maneuvers. (1)
5. On 16 January, it was determined that the RTO of the Soviet
komendatura was located at 11 Greifswalderstrasse. Workers who
were engaged in improving the so-called Zeppelinhalle on the
embankment of the Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg railroad line said
that the building would be converted into a supply installation
as soon as possible. (4) T-34 tanks [REDACTED] were 25X1
observed on a regular freight train going from Oranienburg toward
Loewenberg on 10 January. 25X1
6. In the evening of 9 January, all buildings of the SS Kaserne on
Bernauer Allee were fully lighted. Sedans [REDACTED] 25X1
were parked at the barracks gate. [REDACTED] 25X1
[REDACTED]
7. A train which left the Oranienburg railroad station northward at
about 10:45 a.m. on 14 January consisted of 2 boxcars, each
carrying 15 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets; 10 closed
boxcars; and 7 flatcars, each carrying 1 truck and 1 x 37-mm AA
gun. [REDACTED] 25X1
[REDACTED]
8. On 12 January, 4 x 45-mm AT guns were being emplaced north of the 25X1
Industriehof which belongs to the SS Kaserne. In late December 25X1
1951 the ranking officer in the SS Kaserne was Colonel Gruenshenkov
(fnu) (phonetic spelling). The colonel was billeted at 11 Hubertus-
strasse within the limits of the military billeting area. (1) [REDACTED]

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

[redacted]

25X1

25X1

[redacted]

25X1

[redacted]

10. In the morning of 30 December, the soldiers in the SS Kaserne, Oranienburg, had to pick up propaganda leaflets which had been thrown into the billeting area by anti-Soviet elements during the preceding night. (7)

[redacted] Comments.

(1) The bulk of the 25th Tank Div which is carried in the concentration camp and the Panzer Schule is confirmed [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] Units Stepanizhve (?) and Zimakin 25X1
received shipments of potatoes in September 1951 at Camp Vogelsang which, among other units, quartered components of the 25th Tank Div at that time. [redacted] 25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY [redacted] 25X1

- 4 - [redacted] 25X1

Security Information

25X1

[redacted] [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] This generally confirms the statement of the present report. The hitherto unknown Lieutenant Colonels Petrovets (fnu) and Makin (fnu) may be administrative officers of two components of the 25th Tank Div. The source of Paragraphs 9 to 11 last identified Colonel Gruenshenko (fnu) as Colonel Gruenkhen (fnu).

25X1

[redacted]

25X1

25X1

(3) Judging by [redacted] the radio station, Oranienburg castle still quarters the Hq 25th Tank Div and components of the division's signal battalion. [redacted]

25X1

(4) The installations are reported for the first time. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted]

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY