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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Austria

DATE DISTR. 16 October 1952

SUBJECT Soviet Army Training, Maneuvers and Unit Supply

NO. OF PAGES 8

DATE OF INFO. 25X1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE
ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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25X1 Garrison Training

1. Garrison training in the Central Group of Forces, Soviet Zone of Austria, starts on 1 December of each year and lasts until 15 October of the following year. The first phase, 1 December to 15 January, consists of six weeks of individual and squad training. The second phase, 15 January to 15 March, consists of platoon and company training. The period from 15 March to 30 March is devoted to training inspection. From 1 to 15 April the troops prepare for departure to summer camps where they remain until the end of October. The third phase of the training, from 15 April to September, is at the company and battalion level. The fourth phase, which is concluded during the month of September, consists of training exercises and maneuvers on the regimental level. Inspections are held upon completion of the fourth phase in September. Summer training is then ended with maneuvers either on the divisional level or on the Central Group of Forces level. After the maneuvers, during the period 15 October to 1 December, emphasis is placed on housekeeping, maintenance and the repair of barracks and garages, area policing, etc, with only a minimum amount of training.
2. Small arms firing is conducted once every three months. The firing of heavier weapons takes place during summer training in Allentsteig [4841N-1519E].
I fired the following weapons:
Carbine - three times, four rounds each
Maxim MG - four times, five rounds each
TT pistol - once, 35 rounds
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First year soldiers were rated differently on marksmanship than were the second and third year soldiers, as indicated in the table below:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>
1st year	24	20	17
2nd and 3rd year	28	24	20

The above scores are based on the firing of four rounds at a bull's-eye type target. A bull's-eye is counted as 10 points, the next circle as nine points, etc. Small arms firing at silhouette or bull's-eye type targets is conducted on a range of 100 and/or 200 meters

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3. The daily program, which is identical for winter and summer, is as follows:

0600	Reveille
0610-0635	Physical training
0635-0650	Personal toilet
0650-0710	Inspection
0710-0740	Breakfast
0740-0800	Close order drill
0800-1300	Training
1300-1330	Dinner
1330-1400	Individual care and maintenance of weapons
1400-1530	Rest period
1530-1830	Training
1830-2030	Political indoctrination lectures and discussions
2030-2130	Supper
2130-2230	Political indoctrination lectures and discussions
2230-2300	Roll call, evening drill
2300	Taps

No training is conducted on Saturday afternoons or on Sundays. The two training periods, 0800-1300 and 1530-1830, follow a definite schedule, consisting of close order drill, nomenclature and stripping of weapons, aiming exercises, medical and chemical lectures, skirmishes, tactics, and political lectures.

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About every three months the troops are taken to a firing range, but there does not appear to be a fixed firing schedule which is supposed to be followed.

4. Close order drill and weapons instruction are conducted by platoon and platoon NCOs, usually under the supervision of platoon leaders and, occasionally, by the company CO. Political lectures, which are presented by regimental officers, are given to the soldiers in separate groups, according to length of service; thus, soldiers with only one year service receive political lectures as a group, those with two years service in another group, those with three years service in still another group, and the NCOs also in a separate group. A different officer conducts the lectures in each of these four groups. Each EM has two hours of political lectures twice a week. In addition to this, there are evening political indoctrination and discussion classes, which consist of debates and discussions on the subjects mentioned in political lectures.

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5. The troops are inspected twice each year by an inspection commission consisting of a number of colonels and field grade officers. The first inspection takes place between 15 and 30 March and the second at the end of September or in October. The commission conducting the fall inspection is allegedly from Moscow, while the commission conducting the spring inspection is from the Central Group of Forces. These commissions check on political training, close order drill, firing, physical training, the physical fitness of troops, and the condition of vehicles and weapons.

6. EM were never told about any training deficiencies which the commissions might have uncovered. Only officers attended a critique held at division headquarters

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7.

8.

25X1 A CPX is held twice annually, once in February and March and again in June and July. During these exercises the division headquarters and the regimental COs and their staffs move about 200 km by vehicle through Austria. About 15 Willys jeeps and a number of trucks participate in these command post exercises.

25X1 The only chemical warfare training was during basic training in 1949. We were expected to put on our gas masks within 15 seconds and usually did so in 10 to 12 seconds. recall the types of gases demonstrated in 1949. Once each year the personnel of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt went through a gas chamber as part of their training

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25X1 Soviet soldiers fire only the weapon with which they are armed and receive no familiarization training in firing with other weapons. Troops are continuously told in political lectures that US imperialists are preparing to attack the Soviet Union and that all Soviet troops will have to defend the fatherland. The propaganda is directed against all US troops in general. The usual line taken is that the US is preparing to attack the Soviet Union but that US troops possess no political convictions and will not therefore fight well. the American people are cowardly and that they have never proved their ability to wage a war victoriously without outside help. Although US ground forces are held in low esteem, the Soviets have a high regard for the US Air Force and Navy. American soldiers are presented as hooligans who get drunk frequently and shoot, rob and rape the people of the country in which they are stationed.

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9. The 46th Gds Mecz Regt had one NCO training school with about 70 students, all of whom were selected to attend the school immediately after being assigned to the regiment. Pre-requisites for attendance was seven to 10 years of education and a good political background. Graduates of this school remained in the 46th Gds Mecz Regt. [REDACTED]
- 25X1 [REDACTED]
- 25X1 [REDACTED]
- 25X1 the students fired such weapons as TT pistols, carbines, PPShs, SMGs, LMGs, MGs, and mortars, and were well trained in marksmanship.
- 25X1 [REDACTED]
- 25X1 [REDACTED]
- 25X1 all three regiments of the 13th Gds Mecz Div are alike, [REDACTED] assume that similar NCO schools do exist in the other regiments.
10. [REDACTED] the 13th Gds Mecz Div had a special tank training school in Bruck /4810N-1646E/ [REDACTED]

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Summer Training

11. When the 46th Gds Mecz Regt entrained for the summer training area in Allentsteig /4841N-1619E/ on 10 May 1951, all the regiment's personnel departed, with the exception of one officer and a number of EM who remained in Klosterneuburg /4818N-1619E/ for guard purposes. [REDACTED] the following was the only organic equipment which was left at Klosterneuburg:
- 25X1 [REDACTED]

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truck. Six trains were used to transport all the men and equipment of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt [redacted]

[redacted] The train trip, which was free of accidents, took five or six hours, but the regimental [redacted] the only ones who traveled to Allensteig by jeep, completed the trip in three hours. Units of the 95th Rifle Division, which were in Allensteig [redacted] were responsible for maintenance. [redacted]

[redacted] /See Enclosure B for summer training area installations/. Meals were served in a regular mess hall. Recreation consisted of movies in the evening and volley ball, soccer and other athletic games on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays. There has been no swimming since 1950, because in that year an EM drowned in a nearby lake and a ban on swimming ensued. Every ten days, however, the EM bathed in camp and changed their underwear. Many destroyed and unpopulated villages were used for training purposes. /See Enclosure B for the training area which covered an area of about 60x40 km, and also for what Source knows about supply installations which supported the summer training area./

Squad leaders constantly checked on the presence of their EM. [redacted]

[redacted] No AWOLs were reported, probably because there were virtually no towns, bars or women in the Allensteig area. Training was begun within three or four days after arrival in Allensteig. /See paragraph 3, above for the daily schedule in Allensteig. At the termination of the summer training period a maneuver at divisional level was held in the area. Specialized training in the coordination of tank-artillery-infantry attacks was given [redacted]

Maneuvers

13. All units of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt and one or more regiments [redacted] of the 95th Rifle Div participated in the final summer maneuvers held in October 1951 in the Allensteig training area. /See Enclosure B for the polygon in which the maneuver took place. [redacted]

[redacted] JS and T-34 tanks, 57mm AT guns, SP-76 and SP-122 guns, AA MGs, AA guns, and various guns [redacted]

14. The field kitchens moved from the base in the Allensteig area to the maneuver area where they remained stationary behind the front; both officers and EM had to go to the field kitchens to be fed.

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15. Despite the fact that the rifle units were mechanized, they marched about five kilometers during the maneuvers. [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] the longest move by vehicles was about five kilometers. [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 The maneuver, which lasted three days, took place during the day,
25X1 with the troops resting at night.
16. Vehicle repair shops, ration supply points, and ambulances moved with the troops during the maneuvers. Each battalion provided small guard units which remained at the summer base camp [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
17. [redacted] only black shoulder boards with red piping being worn by the EM who participated in the maneuvers; some EM wore armor, signal or QM insignia on their shoulder boards. All branches of the Army were represented in the insignia worn by officers on their shoulder boards.
18. [redacted]
[redacted]
The EM of the 95th Rifle Div, who represented the enemy troops, wore white paper in their caps; the EM of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt, who represented the friendly troops, carried no such distinguishing marks. Umpires participated in the maneuvers, [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] A critique was held for
25X1 the officers after the maneuvers [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
19. There was considerable drunkenness among the troops during maneuvers despite the fact that liquor was difficult to obtain. Some EM occasionally argued and fought with their NCOs [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
20. When the maneuvers were concluded in October, the 46th Gds Mecz Regt returned to Klosterneuburg. [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] Inasmuch as the 95th Rifle Div was charged with the maintenance of the training area, no personnel from the 46th Gds Mecz Regt were left behind.
21. In 1952 the 46th Gds Mecz Regt did not go as a complete unit to Allentzberg for summer training. In the beginning of April 1952 the mortar battalion of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt went to Allentzberg for firing and returned after two or three weeks. After the mortar battalion returned the first rifle battalion departed for summer training. The second rifle battalion was scheduled for rotation [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 [redacted]
25X1 The first tank company left for the summer training area on 4 May 1952, [redacted]
[redacted]

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Miscellaneous

22. Only generals, a few colonels, and MGB officers were permitted to bring their dependents to the Soviet Zone of Austria. No reason was ever given for not allowing other dependents to enter the Soviet Zone of Austria.
23. Soviet EM were not permitted to leave their barracks except on work details or in formation. Soviet officers had much more freedom of movement than did the EM. These restrictions on freedom of movement, however, were not obeyed. Drivers and supply clerks were often sent without an officer escort to get food and supplies and seized upon this opportunity to drink and fraternize. Officers frequently sent EM to run errands for them, and the EM would usually take additional time to drink and fraternize. Members of the soccer team had many opportunities to drink and fraternize when they went into town to buy uniforms, to watch other soccer teams practice, etc. Since EM guards did not interfere with other EM who wished to go into town, many soldiers would wait until a friend was on guard duty at a checkpoint without an officer and then freely pass through the gates. Many EM who worked on vehicles, guns, tanks and other equipment in a fenced off area /See Enclosure A, #217/ could easily leave this area. Many of the EM went to the USIA (a Soviet operated store which sold merchandise to both Austrians and Soviet troops) to buy liquor. Despite CGF regulations against drinking the USIA store openly sold alcohol to both Soviet officers and EM. Both officers and EM were frequently drunk, especially on holidays and paydays.
24. Officers received 45 days leave plus travel time each year and could take their leave either in the USSR or at special rest centers somewhere in Austria.
- According to hearsay information, this leave had to be taken at one time and could not be broken down into two or more shorter leaves.
- EM were not supposed to receive any leave. An EM could, however, with the approval of his unit CO, receive 10 days leave for excelling in political indoctrination courses, for outstanding performance in training, or for compassionate reasons.
- EM who reenlisted voluntarily (sverkhsrochniki) received the same leave privileges as did officers. During political debates an EM would occasionally ask why such privileges as greater freedom of movement, higher pay, better food, better clothing, leave, and the opportunity to purchase food from officers clubs, were granted to officers and not to EM. The reply invariably was that officers were in the army for a period of 25 years and were therefore deserving of these privileges; furthermore, any soldier could have similar privileges by voluntarily reenlisting and, by doing so, have an opportunity to become an officer. Practically every EM in the Soviet Army, however, has no desire to become an officer and spend 25 years in the army; the thought uppermost in their minds is to be demobilized and find a decent job in the USSR. Other than an occasional question like this, of any complaints against the leave system.

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25. The principal complaints of Soviet troops in Austria were directed against the restrictions on movement, drinking, and contact with the local population.

25X1 [redacted] there is general discontent with the strict regulations.

25X1 [redacted] Unlike the situation in the Soviet Union, EM in Austria have little fear or respect for NCOs and often argue and fight with them. There were usually three or four EM from the 46th Gds Mecz Regt in the guardhouse all the time. Most of them were placed there for being drunk, despite the fact that drunkenness is widespread in the regiment and seemingly little attention paid to it. 25X1 [redacted] never heard of any VD cases. Although the regulations against drinking were broken daily, [redacted] heard of such a serious breach of discipline as deliberate disobedience to orders.

25X1 [redacted] in December 1950 or in January 1951 a private from the 1st Mecz Rifle Bn, 46th Gds Mecz Regt, deliberately shot himself in the leg for some unknown reason. Upon recovery this private was courtmartialed and allegedly executed. 25X1 in the summer of 1949 an officer, a captain or major, of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt deserted with his wife from Allentsteig.

25X1 [redacted] Although moderate drinking by officers was condoned, excessive drinking often resulted in a compulsory return to the USSR. This happened to a Major (fnu) 25X1 Narenkov, who had been [redacted] the operations officer on the staff of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt. After repeated warnings about his excessive drinking, which went unheeded by him, he was finally 25X1 returned to the USSR in the fall of 1951. [redacted] of three EM in the 46th Gds Mecz Regt who, in either 1950 or 1951, were court- 25X1 martialed for fraternizing and sentenced to terms of five to seven years of forced labor in the USSR. [redacted] in all the 25X1 other units of the 13th Gds Mecz Div an average of three to five EM are arrested annually for fraternizing and then courtmartialed and 25X1 returned to the USSR.

26.

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27. The food served in the Soviet Army, while not too good or too plentiful, is nevertheless better than most EM had at home. The 25X1 same is true of medical care. [redacted] food, medical care, PX supplies, etc, do not influence morale at all.

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Enclosure A: Area of 46th Gds Mecz Regt in Klosterneuburg
B: Summer Training Area Near Allentsteig.

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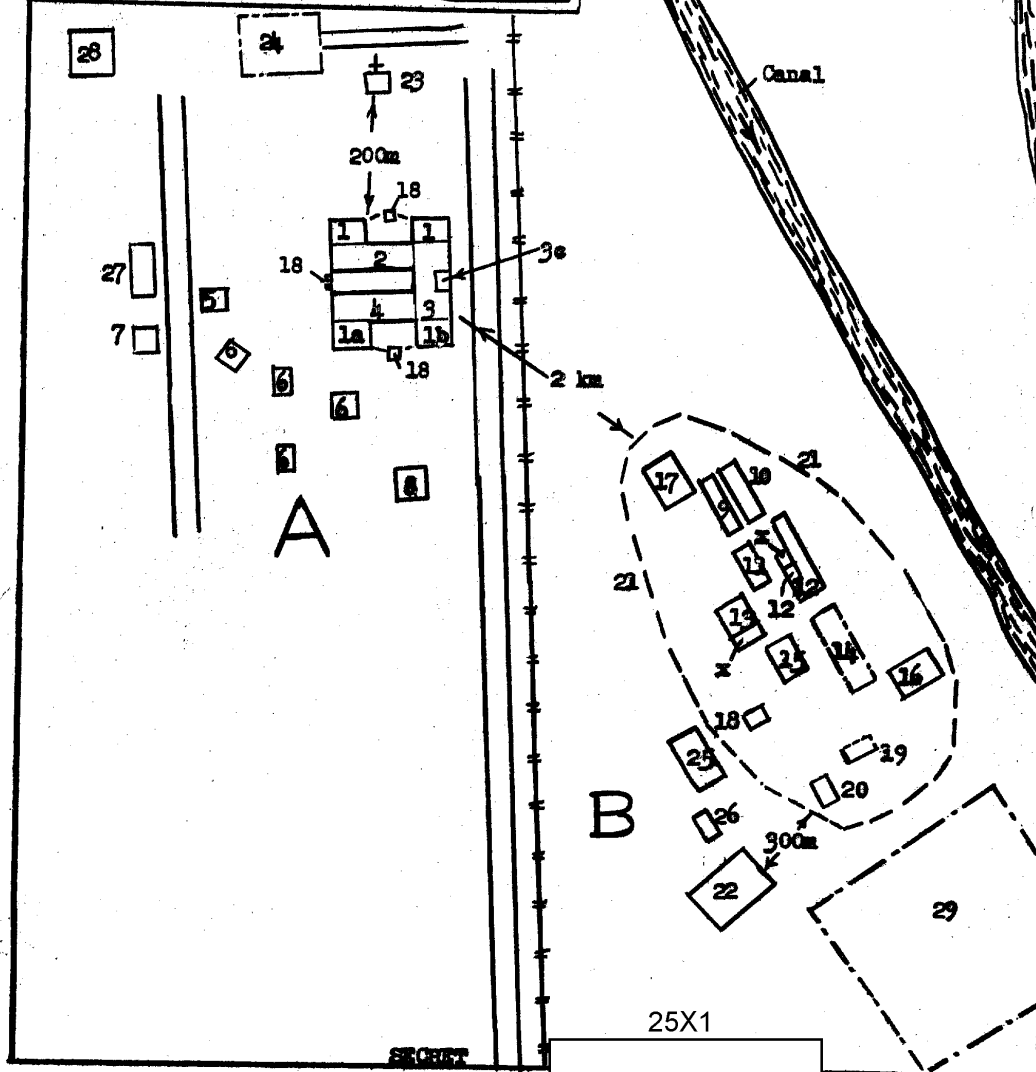
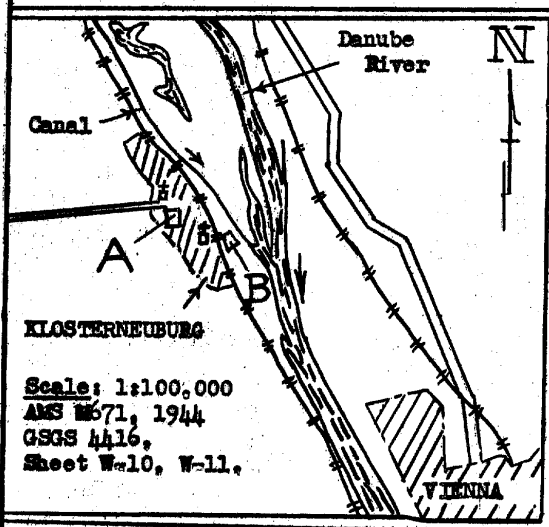
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Enclosure A

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Area of 46th Gds Mecz Regt in KLOSTERNEUBURG



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Legend to Enclosure A

Barracks Area of 46th Gds Mecz Regt in KLOSTERNEUBURG, Sov Zone of Austria

(Only the sizes of buildings which source could describe are given below.)

- 1.2.3.4. Barracks complex, former German Army barracks, housing about 1060 NCO's and Pvts of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt and the u/1 Engineer Battalion of the 13th Gds Mecz Div.

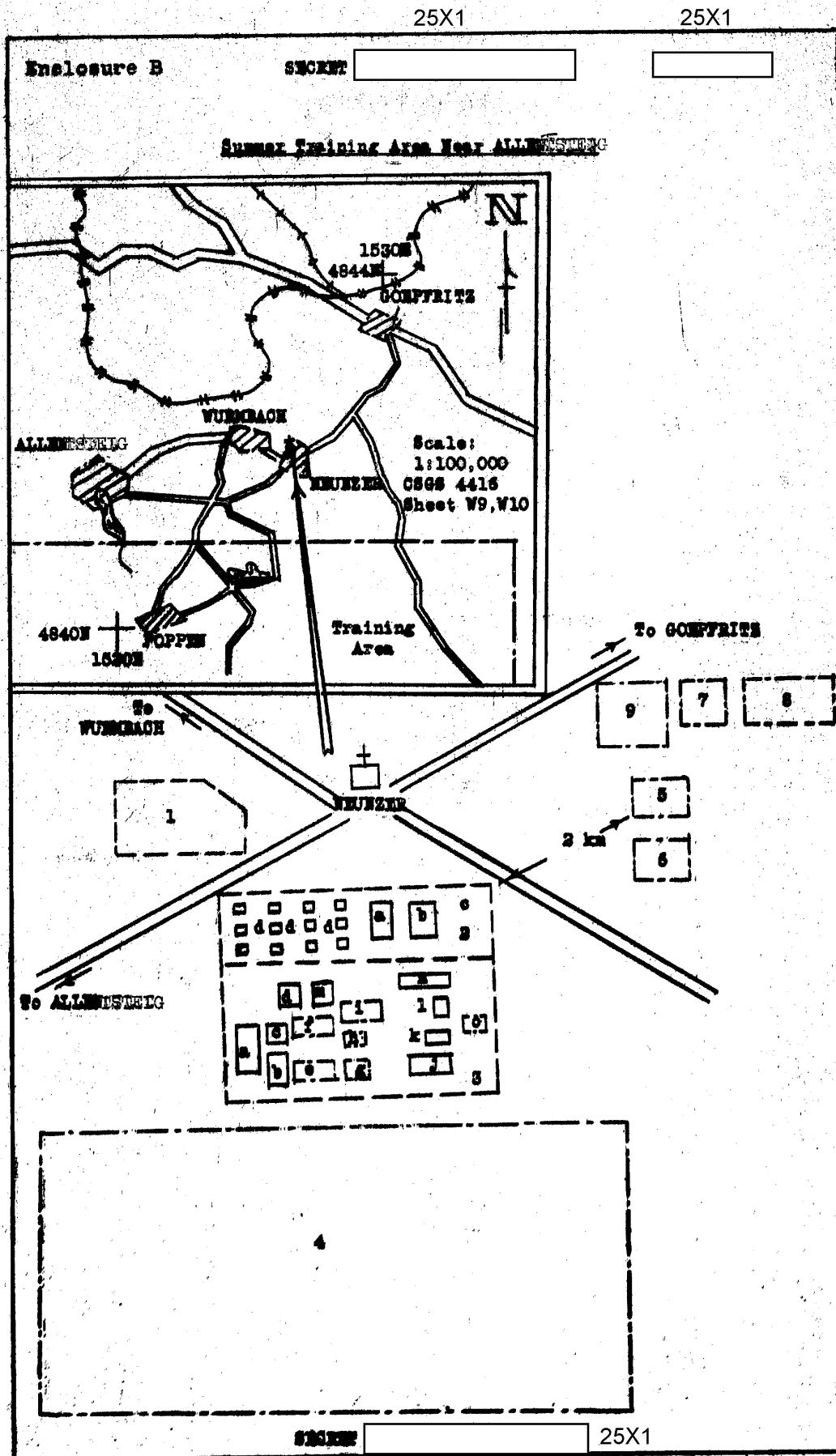
Breakdown:

1. Corner buildings of barracks complex; four stories and basement, brick; size unknown.
 - 1a. In basement, potato and vegetable storage
 - 1b. In basement, clothes and equipment storage
2. Three stories and basement, brick. Size unknown. The PX, the medical detachment, Hq of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt and a messhall large enough for all EM of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt were located on the first floor.
- 3c. Storage in basement of engineer and chemical supplies. [redacted] saw the following engineering equipment there: two or three pneumatic boats, one mine searcher (types unknown). [redacted] could not describe the chemical equipment since his hearsay knowledge did not contain that information.
4. [redacted] that he lived in this section together with 29 other EM in one room about 10 x 8 m. They had double-tiered cots. In [redacted] the whole complex was only half-full and could accommodate another 500-1000 EM. [redacted] heard that additional personnel would be arriving in June of 1952 and were to be housed in the same barracks complex.
5. Officers' messhall, two-story brick building, accommodating 250-300 officers. Upstairs, officers' club.
6. Civilian two or three story buildings, exact size unknown, some stucco, some brick, some wood, now used as billets for officers. Officers lived two or three per room.
7. Austrian store.
8. Small one-story brick building used for food storage. [redacted] heard that it had formerly been a church. No other details.
9. Garage, one-story, brick, very large, size unknown, housed all vehicles (an unknown number) of Mortar Bn of 46th Gds Mecz Regt (mortars, prime movers, trucks.)
10. Garage, brick, one-story, housed unknown number of vehicles of 1st and 2nd Mecz Bns, 46th Gds Mecz Regt.
11. One story brick building used for storage of automotive tools and for ordnance repair.
12. Large garage, one-story, brick, housing all motorcycles, armored cars of Reconnaissance Company of 46th Gds Mecz Regt. In the corner (12x) were 9 jeeps, 2 Studebakers, 1 Ford, 1 ZIS and 1 Dodge of Hq Company, 46th Gds Mecz Regt.
13. Garage, one-story brick, for about 35 trucks of Technical Automobile Company, 46th Gds Mecz Regt. 13x - Vehicle repair shop.

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14. Outdoor storage area for 20-25 T/34 Tanks (under canvas).
15. Electrical repair shop, brick, one-story (batteries were recharged here.)
16. One-story garage, brick, housing the trucks of the tank battalion, 46th Gds Mecz Regt (number of vehicles unknown.)
17. Two-story brick building, fenced off by five feet high barbed wire, containing artillery supplies.
18. Check points - usually manned by one NCO and two Pvts.
19. Destroyed building, now used as a guardhouse.
20. Brick building, one-story (source heard that there were explosives inside.)
21. Iron railing fence, two meters high.
22. POL storage place; wooden, one-story building and small underground tanks; also parking area for some trucks.
23. Church in KLOSTERNEUBURG.
24. Center of the town of KLOSTERNEUBURG.
25. Electric factory (Austrian owned.)
26. Sales store of USIA (all soldiers employed in the garage areas fenced off by fence (#21) could and did go there to buy alcoholic drinks.)
27. Austrian bar, frequented by Soviet officers.
28. Two-story brick house where CO of 46th Gds Mecz Regt lived with his staff. The CO had a room to himself and the Political Officer of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt had a room to himself; all other staff officers lived two to a room.
29. Target range, 1st and 2nd Bn.

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Legend to Enclosure BSummer Training Area Near Allentsteig (4841N-1519E)

This area had formerly been an Austrian, and later a German troop training area. Source heard rumors to the effect that Field Marshall Paulus, (German Army) had trained his troops there. The area was nicknamed "The Austrian Siberia" by Soviet troops because of the cold and rainy weather and the desolate appearance. It contained a polygon (training ground) about 60 km x 40 km, as shown on attached sketch. Railroad detraining points for those going to the polygon were at the village of Neuherr (4841N-1523) and Gospiritz (4843N-1524E).

In 1949, 1950, and 1951 most units of the 13th Gds Mecz Div and of the 95th Rifle Div and the whole of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt went to Allentsteig for training during the summer months. In 1952, subunits of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt undertook their summer training in Allentsteig, in such a manner that one battalion would be gone for two or three weeks' training at a time. [] not know whether other units of the 13th Gds Mecz Div and of the 95th Rifle Div went to Allentsteig in 1952.

[] from the regimental CO that the barracks were in poor shape and were falling apart. He did not know whether it was contemplated to repair the installations in Allentsteig or to discontinue their use for summer training.

All buildings in the Allentsteig area, unless stated otherwise below, were barrack type buildings, one-story high, and about 20-30 m x 10 m. Description below is of the camp as it had been in 1949, 1950, and 1951.

1. Open area, about 500 m x 500 m, surrounded by a wooden fence 1 1/2 m high; used for parking of all guns, tanks and vehicles of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt. The guns and tanks were under canvas while the trucks and jeeps were without covers.
2. Reconnaissance Battalion, 46th Gds Mecz Regt area:
 - a. Messhall
 - b. Bath
 - c. Open air parking lot for vehicles of the battalion
 - d. Unknown number of barracks for personnel
3. The 46th Gds Mecz Regt area, about 1 km x 1 km:
 - a. EM messhall (for about 1000 EM)
 - b. Officers' messhall (for about 300 officers)
 - c. Hq of 46th Gds Mecz Regt
 - d. Bath
 - e. Reconnaissance Company area
 - f. Tank battalion area
 - g. Mortar battalion area
 - h. 1st Mecz Bn area

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- i. Artillery Bn area
 - j. Officers' billets
 - k. Services, AA, medics
 - l. Regimental NCO school
 - m. Depot for QM clothing, equipment and food; also housed the voyentrog (PX)
 - n. Officers' club (also used by EM for lectures or movies)
 - o. Fenced off ammunition storage area
4. The 95th Rifle Div area - no details or estimate of size available since source had never been in the area.
 5. Hq of 13th Gds Mecz Div.
 6. 2nd Mecz Bn, 46th Gds Mecz Regt area.
 7. Area of the 106th Gds HT and SP Regt and of the vehicle repair shops of the 13th Gds Mecz Div.
 8. Open parking area for tanks, guns, SPs vehicles of the 106th Gds HT & SP Regt.
 9. 45th Gds Mecz area.

NOTE: 2 and 3 were surrounded by a cement fence topped with iron railings to a height of about 1½ m. This fence was, however, broken in several places and the breaks had not been repaired.

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