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CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Military Information on the 5th PS
Brig
REPORT NO. NZ-13971
DATE OF REPORT 18 July 1956
PLACE ACQUIRED Germany/Germany
DATE OF INFO up to 18 April 1956
LAST REPORT ON SUBJECT
(If applicable)
EVALUATION OF SOURCE F
APPRAISAL OF CONTENT 13
ANNEXES

Source description
Defector No 34553, Czechoslovakian national, born 1935, who served with
elements of the 5th PS Brig from 29 October 1955 to 18 April 1956 which
was the day of desertion.

1. Until 10 April 1956, the former school house in Pastviny (Přílečkovice) was occupied by the 3d PS Co. The company was subordinate to the 1st Bn in Kossbach and had PS 15/33 Chob as postal address. The unit was employed on border guard duty in a border section which was 2,700 m long and extended between the Zima Bach (revalat) near Sileschitzgraben and the border opposite the Franzosenrab near Pommernruth on Bavarian territory.
2. The company had a strength of 3 officers, 5 NCOs and 35 PM. (Lieutenant) Dufek (fsm) was commanding officer. Other officers of the company were (Lieutenant) Wolf (fsm) and (Major) (fsm). The other companies of the Battalion had a similar strength. The soldiers wore green collar patches and red-bordered green epauletts. The monthly pay of a private was 170 Kcs (crowns).
3. The company was equipped with 28 model-1912 automatic rapid-fire rifles of 7.62 mm, 12 Czechoslovakian-made submachine guns and 4 Czechoslovakian light machine guns. The arms were stored and distributed for parties only. Signal equipment included small reliable field telephones with cable sections which were used for communication between telephone stations in the border area and the company headquarters.
4. There were no mines or high-tension obstacles in the border section of the 3d Co. The double-sapron entanglement was provided with rebats which were concentrated near the openings. The border area was also protected by rebats connected to trip wires. No bunkers were available. The patrol and entry duty was irregular and not according to a schedule. A patrol included two or three soldiers who were field glasses, a field telephone, a rifle or a submachine gun. The border guard duty was performed in three-hour or five-hour shifts.
5. The No 5th PS Brig was stationed in Chob. The brigade was commanded by Major Pohorny (fsm). The brigade was organized into four battalions. The 1st Bn was stationed in Kossbach, the 2d Bn in Ag, the 3d Bn in Haslov (Grimau), and the 4th Bn in Chob. The 1st Bn included six companies. The 1st and 2d Co were stationed in cantonments opposite Neuchermelle and Tempermhle respectively which are located on West German territory. The 4th Co occupied a cantonment between Pastviny and Stitavy (Schildarn), and the 5th Co was stationed in Stitavy. The 6th Co was stationed at an unknown post next to Stitavy.

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6. On 29 October 1955, defector who was of the 1915 class was inducted in Jibara and transferred to the 3d Reg Co in A-Stream (Subsistence) the following day. He was to serve for two years and three months. His basic training with the 3d Reg Co lasted three months. After completion of service, a P3 discharge could join any individual branch of the police forces. The 3d Reg Co was subordinate to the 2d P8 Bn which was stationed in Ad. The battalion included five training companies which had an average strength of 170 to 180 soldiers. The strength of the 4th Co which was a motorized technical unit was slightly below this level. The 3d Reg Co and the 2d Reg Co were stationed at a former textile factory in Truana. The 3d Reg Co was organized into six platoons. Officers of the company included Lieutenant Pavlik (fn) as commanding officer and three other lieutenants. The 2d Reg Co was commanded by Senior Lieutenant Pikkov (fn). In February 1956, defector and seven other soldiers of the 3d Reg Co were transferred to the 3d Border Guard Co. It was learned that the 6th Border Guard Co was also stationed in Ad.

Field Comment. The report confirms previous observations. It is noteworthy that a P8 soldier has to serve for 27 months.

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