

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

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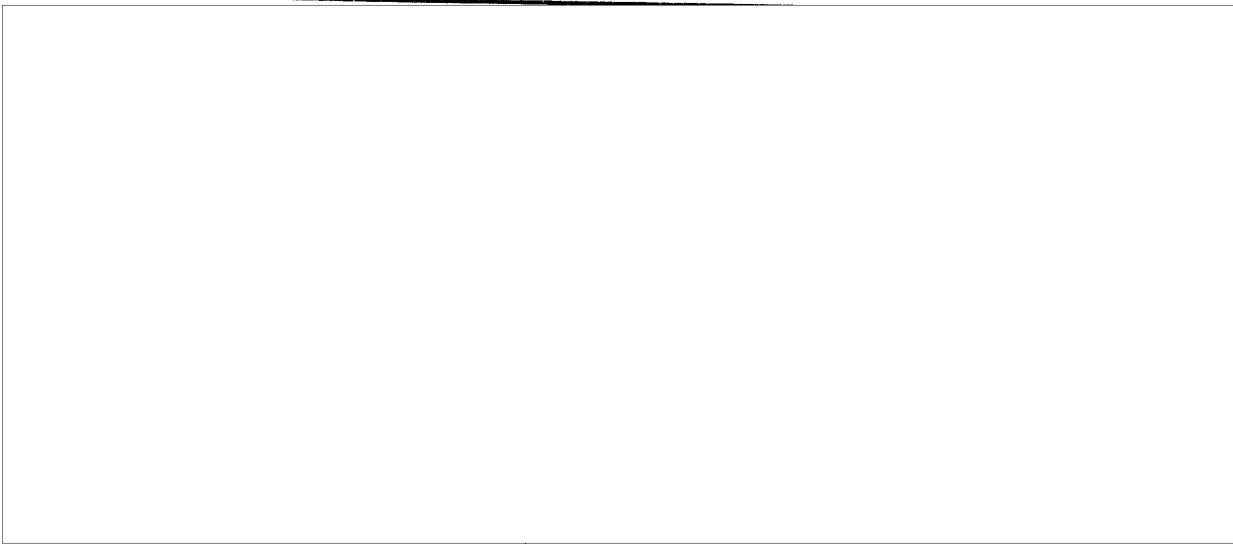
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
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2. On 6 October 1952 our train reached Frankfurt/Oder. We were taken to some barracks located about two kilometers from the railroad station where we spent the night; the next morning we went to formation, were grouped according to our MOS's and assigned to various GDFG units. I was reassigned to the infantry, and together with 300 more recruits (approximately 150 from the Krasnoselski Rifle Regiment) was selected for duty with some battalion under the Berlin Komendatura. For this unit only Komsomol members and soldiers with the best character references (kharakteristika) were chosen. The same day several buses transported us to the Frankfurt/Oder railroad station, where we entrained for Berlin. As soon as we reached Berlin we detrained and were divided into smaller groups. My group of approximately 75 recruits was assigned to my battalion's third company and taken to Kleinmachnow approximately 6 km. from Berlin.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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- [redacted] 25X1
3. Headquarters of the battalion [redacted] was located in Teltow /5224N-1316E/. This battalion was composed of four sub-machine gun companies and was deployed for border guard duty between the American Sector of Berlin and the Soviet Zone of Germany. [redacted] company was located in Kleinmachnow. [redacted] were quarantined and at the same time underwent familiarization training for border guards duties. [redacted] received several days of practical training in patrolling and checking of documents. This was done along the actual zonal border. In patrol duty old soldiers and recruits would work together. The CO of the 3rd Sub-machine Gun Company was Sr. Lt. (fnu) MIKHAYLOV. The other officers were: 1st Platoon, Sr. Lt. (fnu) AGEYEV; 2nd Platoon, Lt. (fnu) IVANOV; 3rd Platoon, Lt. (fnu) IGN'YATOVSKIY. There were actually only two platoons [redacted] during the period [redacted] 25X1
- The company strength was only 65 men broken down into two platoons. NCO's and privates in my company were armed with PPSH submachine guns and bayonets. In addition to PPSH, each section (three per platoon) had one light machine gun RPD. [redacted] issued entrenching tools and gas masks, but they were always kept in the barracks. No anti-personnel mines were ever used on the border. Soldiers [redacted] wore mostly the infantry, magenta shoulder boards. [redacted] came with the black shoulder boards and continued to wear them. [redacted] company lived in two private houses in Kleinmachnow. The company headquarters was housed in one of these houses. 25X1
4. [redacted] all four companies of [redacted] battalion were deployed along the American Sector border of Berlin. From west to east our companies were deployed in the following manner: First, Third, Second, and Fourth Company /See Enclosures A and B/. [redacted] worked in the closest cooperation with the East German police. [redacted] there were two detachments of German police, each 150 men strong, assisting in the patrol of my company's area. [redacted] understanding that these detachments of the German police were subordinate to my company; at any rate, [redacted] the border duty together and German police followed [redacted] orders. Almost all of them knew some Russian and mutual understanding was not difficult. Both of these German police detachments were stationed in Kleinmachnow. 25X1
5. Border duty consisted of open patrolling (patrolirovaniye), camouflaged patrolling (dozor), ambush (zasada), and listening posts (sekret).
- a. Open Patrolling was done 24 hours daily by patrols composed of two or more soldiers or two or more German police. Larger patrols were used on holidays or when some border crossing was expected. Our company's area of patrol was divided into six stretches. They were of different length, but even the shortest one was several kilometers long. Patrol duty lasted eight hours; normally it was organized in such a way that Soviet and German police patrols from two adjoining points were sent toward each other. They met somewhere in the middle of the stretch and then continued in the original direction up to the end of their stretch. After that the same procedure was repeated several times until the eight hours of duty were over. The patrol path was from 100-500 m. behind the border line. According to the prevailing regulations, Soviet or American personnel crossing the patrol line had to be taken by Soviet soldiers to the company headquarters (zastava 3 roty) in Kleinmachnow. German border crossers were delivered by German policemen to the German police station in Kleinmachnow.

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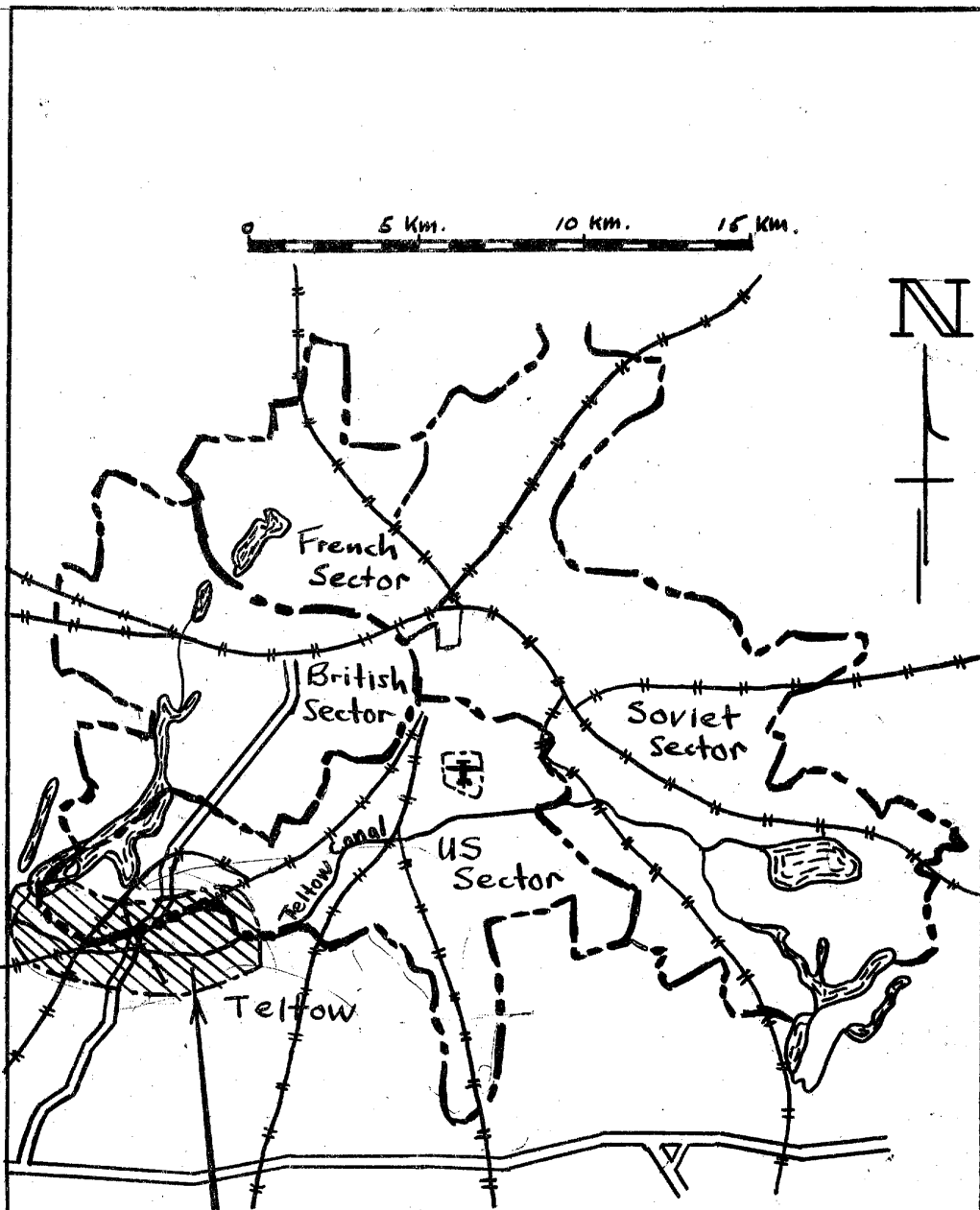
- b. Camouflaged Patrolling (Dozor) is actually a patrol of two or more soldiers on the very edge of the border, moving along the border and taking occasional cover. When the guard company put out "dozors," open patrolling was dispensed with. There were not many regulations for dozor duty. It was left to the discretion of dozor soldiers how fast they would move and how much time they spent moving and how much time they would spend behind cover. As soon as a dozor would apprehend a border crosser, its members would bring the crosser to the company headquarters. Dozor duty was also done in eight hour shifts.
- c. Listening Posts (Sekrety) were sometimes employed at previously determined points where border crossings either were occurring or expected to occur. A sekret consisted of two or more soldiers who would take cover close to such a crossing point and wait for any activity. As soon as someone crossed the border line, he would be arrested by the sekret and taken to company headquarters.
- d. Ambush (Zasada) is a sekret which is used when there is information that on some particular point of the border a crossing by certain individuals or automobiles will be attempted. Zasada uses the same procedure described for sekrets. [redacted] the German police also use zasada and sekret services on their own initiative. There was one permanent border crossing point on the patrol area of the company for use by holders of inter-zonal passes. It was located on the intersection of the 3rd and 4th patrol stretches. Normally these passes were checked by German police; but when no German police were nearby, Soviet border guards did it. 25X1
6. According to [redacted] instructions border crossers had to be halted by a loud command, "Halt!" In case this order was not complied with, the border guard had to fire a warning shot in the air. If this didn't stop the border crosser, it was the duty of the border guards to shoot him anywhere below the waist. [redacted] never used police dogs on the border. 25X1
7. In addition to apprehending border crossers, it was the duty of the border guards to watch the border strip for any leaflets, propaganda literature, or western newspapers and to collect this material for delivery to company headquarters. 25X1
8. [redacted] border guard company [redacted] soldiers were not at all interested in performing their duty according to the stated regulations. When the officers were not around, patrols took it easy. They would rest in secluded spots, not caring in the least whether someone crossed the border or not. [redacted] received no reward for catching German civilians, and were not interested therefore in apprehending them. Of course, [redacted] did catch any Americans or Soviets crossing illegally [redacted] could expect at least some reward, such as a wristwatch from Gen. CHUYKOV or one of his assistants. On the other hand, German police were much stricter and handled German border crossers roughly. [redacted] whether German police received any reward for catching civilians. 25X1
9. Food supply was inadequate. During their eight hours of duty on the border soldiers never received any food. Meals were served only in Kleinmachnow, but even this service was irregular. It sometimes took two to three hours after returning from duty to receive a bowl of soup. 25X1

Enclosure A: Plan of Berlin, Germany  
B: Plan of Berlin, Germany

Enc. Annex A

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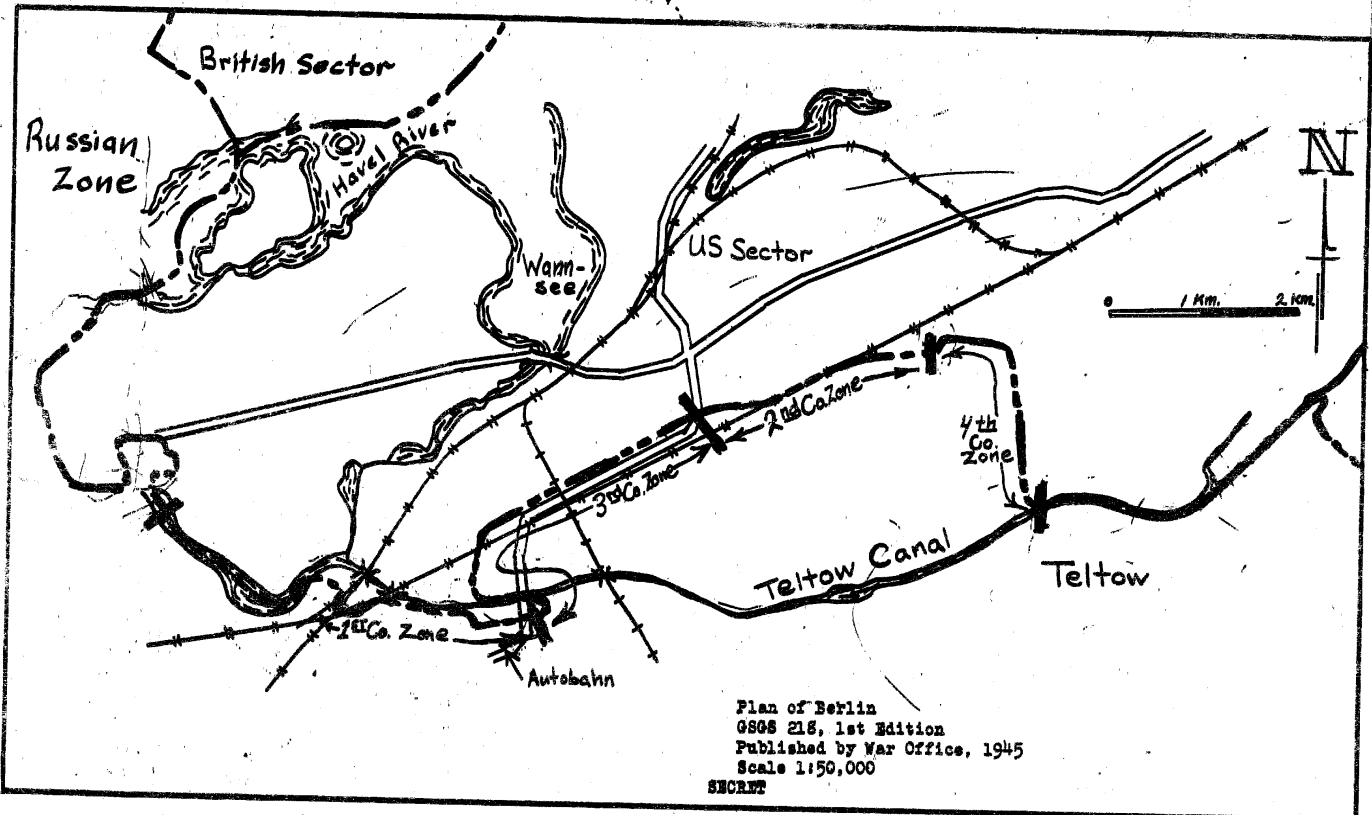


See Enclosure B

Plan of Berlin, Germany  
 GSGS 218, 1st Edition  
 Published by War Office, 1945  
 Approximate Scale 1:190,000

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**SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION**



Plan of Berlin  
OSGS 218, 1st Edition  
Published by War Office, 1945  
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Annex B

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