

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Dessau-Aken Area

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 1 June 1953

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the night of 20 April 1953, 25 boxcars occupied by officers and EM; and 20 flatcars with sideracks carrying bridge-building equipment, and an undetermined number of trucks, [redacted] were unloaded at the Aken railroad station. At about 11 a.m. on 21 April, 12 boxcars, occupied by about 200 officers and EM; and 23 flatcars with sideracks carrying 4 T-34/85 tanks, pontoons, iron girders and trucks, [redacted] were unloaded and, on 25 April, 6 boxcars occupied by about 140 troops and 14 flatcars with sideracks, carrying pontoons, bridge-building equipment and trucks, [redacted] were unloaded.¹

2. Between 28 April and 12 May, only sentries, who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, were observed at the Pionier Kaserne in Rosslau. Although the bulk of the troops had left, training activities observed were rather intensive. Four T-34/85 tanks were seen at driving practice. On 12 May, about 180 troops armed with carbines and submachine guns marched to the Iuko firing range. Two SU-100 guns were seen leaving, and truck [redacted] occupied by about 45 troops; was seen entering, the installation. [redacted]

3. On 28 April, trucks [redacted] were seen en route toward Kochstedt.³ [redacted] a bridge construction of steel sections, 1.5 km from the autobahn. A large area was restricted. [redacted]

4. At 1 p.m. on 9 May, T-34 tanks [redacted] were entrained at the Dessau railroad station. On 9 May, Camp Gross Kuehnau was occupied only by a rear detail.⁵ The barracks installation in Kochstedt, some time ago, had been occupied by Russians.³

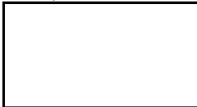
5. The shipping of trucks, boards, pit props, sand etc. to the Aken engineer training site continued until 12 May. On 14 May, at about 5 p.m., 2 large conveyor-belt power shovels and 1 large van-like truck, 12 meters long and

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drawing a scarifier, were seen en route from Dessau to the engineer training site. [redacted] No changes were discernible in the Dessau military post prior to 15 May.²

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1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted] the engineer battalion of the Eighth Gds Army and the engineer battalions of the two rifle corps of the army arrived at their summer training grounds, known from 1952. [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted]. The entraining of elements of the army engineer battalion from the Luetzendorf Kaserne in Weimar on 23 April was confirmed [redacted] 25X1

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2. [redacted] Comment. It is fairly definitely believed that the unidentified tank training battalion of the 7th Gds Tank Div, in addition to major rear details of all units, remained in the barracks installation in Rosslau. [redacted] 25X1

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3. [redacted] Comment. The recent occupation of the barracks installation in Kochstedt by the 62d AAA Div (US) is confirmed [redacted] 25X1

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4. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the bridge construction [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted] the 35th Engr Regt (US) of the Third Gds Mecz Army, [redacted] since early May, has been in Apollensdorf, between Coswig and Wittenberg. 25X1

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5. [redacted] Comment. The 4th Gds Ren Bn of the 7th Gds Tank Div, which left Camp Gross Kuehnau on 16 April, is fairly definitely believed to be at Letzling Heath, along with the bulk of the division.

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