

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT [redacted]

TOPIC Finow Airfield

25X1

EVALUATION [redacted] PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 28 May 1953

REFERENCES [redacted] 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. At 6 p.m. on 1 April 1953 [redacted] 25X1 60 to 80 air force men, 9 tank trucks with 4 trailers, 5 large jeeps and 6 to 8 trucks, including a field kitchen and supply trucks were unloaded at Finow railroad station. [redacted]

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2. [redacted] air activity at Finow airfield:
4 April: Between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. MiG-15 and type-29 planes practiced flying. Between 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., 43 MiG-15 and type-29 planes, including 4 MiG-15s of the alert flight were counted at the field and an additional 12 planes were estimated there. [redacted] About 8 single-engine aircraft were parked on the northern edge of the field.

5 April: There was no air activity.

6 April: Between 9 a.m. and noon, local flights were made. No air activity was observed between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

7 April: A few local flights were made by swept-back jet fighters.

8 April: There was little air activity. Between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., MiG-15 and type-29 planes were observed six times flying in elements of two and four times flying in formations of three. One Yak-11 was also aloft.

9 April: There was favorable weather as on the preceding days. Only little air activity was conducted. Between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., three elements of two swept-back jet fighters were observed at an estimated altitude of 6,000 meters. Two single-engine low-wing monoplanes circled over the field and Li-2 [redacted] took off.

11 April: [redacted] Plane [redacted]

was observed on the northern edge of the field. At the same time, 40 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and 3 single-engine aircraft were parked on the northern edge while about 10 aircraft were aloft.

13 April: Between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., 22 take-offs were made by MiG-15s and 2 take-offs by type-29 planes. The aircraft flew in elements of two and individually circled the field. The weather was clear. Two swept-back jet fighters towing sleeve targets were observed over Finow.

14 April: Between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., there was formation flying in elements of two, in flights of three, in four finger formation and local flying. A total of about 40 MiG-15s, 3 Yak-11s and 1 biplane were observed aloft throughout the day. There was a scattered cloud base and good visibility.

15 April: In the morning, 4 Yak-11s were aloft. There was a closed ceiling and intermittent rain. In the afternoon, the weather improved. Between noon and 5 p.m., there was air activity by MiG-15s, 2 Yak-11s and 1 biplane. After 6 p.m., swept-back

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jet fighters conducted night flying and were still aloft after 9 p.m.

25X1 16 April: There was air activity between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. by swept-back jet fighters, 2 Yak-11s, 1 biplane and 1 high-wing monoplane. The weather was fair and visibility good.

17 April: Between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., flying was practiced by about 25 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and 5 Yak-11s. Three MiG-15s towing air sleeves were aloft, but no attacks were made at the sleeve targets.

25X1 18 April: In the morning, formation flying was practiced in elements of two and four finger formations, one of the latter formations flying at an altitude of about 8,000 meters. After noon, no air activity was observed. At 5:30 p.m., 45 MiG-15 and type-29 planes were counted at the field and additional 18 planes of the same type were estimated there. Besides the jet planes, 5 Yak-11s, 1 twin-engine plane with double rudder assembly and an estimated 5 single-engine monoplanes were observed at the field.

19 April: No air activity was observed.

20 April: Throughout the day there was little air activity by MiG-15 and type-29 planes and Yak-11s, most of which flew in elements of two. There was fair weather. A MiG-15 towing a sleeve target crossed Finow. There was night flying after 6 p.m.

25X1 27 April: At 6:30 p.m., 45 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and 4 Yak-11s
25X1 at the field and an additional 10 MiG-15s and 5 Yak-11s there.
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3. On 18 April, 50 to 60 shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments were observed at the northern and southern edges of the field. 3 3
4. Up to 27 April, six 37-mm guns were observed in the AA emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field. Seven trucks were parked in the wooden garage near the low wooden building housing the kitchen. 4
5. In late April, a total of about 200 bombs were stored in three piles in the bomb dump in the northeastern corner of the field. The dump was guarded by soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. 5

- 25X1 1. [REDACTED]
- 25X1 2. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] Finow airfield is occupied by a
25X1 fighter division headquarters and two fighter regiments. Intensive air activity by
25X1 Yak-11s was conducted in Finow, as was also observed in Grossenhain. [REDACTED]
25X1 Therefore it must be assumed that young pilots are being trained in Finow
25X1 as well as in Grossenhain. [REDACTED]

- 25X1 3. [REDACTED] Comment. This large number of shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments is reported
25X1 for the first time. Previously about 24 revetments were estimated at the field.
- 25X1 4. [REDACTED] Comment. At present, only a light AA battery with six 37-mm guns is stationed
25X1 at the field.
- 25X1 5. [REDACTED] Comment. It has not been determined for what purpose the bombs stored in
25X1 this dump are to be used. Bomb release from MiG-15s has not been observed.

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