

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Finow Airfield	DATE DISTR.	28 July 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Arrival of Twin-Jet Aircraft:

On 13 May, 24 twin-jet engine aircraft were seen for the first time on this airfield. They were dispersed near the hangars on Spechthausen Strasse. All aircraft were protected with fitted earth-colored overall covers. Arrival of these aircraft was not observed and it is not known whether they were flown in or arrived crated. Up to 17 May, the aircraft had not been moved from their dispersal point, nor was any maintenance or fueling activity seen. At 10:45 a.m. on 17 May, however, a twin-engine jet bomber was seen flying at a height of approximately 1,000 meters over the airfield. The aircraft had not taken off from Finow, nor did it land there.

2. Aircraft Count:

- a. From 4 to 12 May, a total of 23 MIG-15's and U-MIG-15's were dispersed on the airfield; 16 were parked near Biesenthaler Strasse and 7 near Spechthausen Strasse, alongside the hangars.
- b. From 13 to 17 May, 24 twin-engine jet aircraft and 12 MIG-15's and U-MIG-15's were parked on the airfield; at night they were dispersed near Biesenthaler Strasse, and during the day on the taxi track. In addition to the planes listed above, two single-piston-engine, single-wing aircraft and two PO-2's were parked throughout the period on the airfield.

3. Flying Activity:

- a. Between 9 and 11 a.m. on 4 and 5 May, all 23 MIG-15 aircraft took turns in carrying out flights of approximately 30 minutes' duration. Only one aircraft was airborne at any one time, an aircraft taking off as soon as another had landed. Between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. all 23 MIG-15's took part in flights of two aircraft, with only one pair airborne at any one time.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

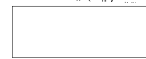
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

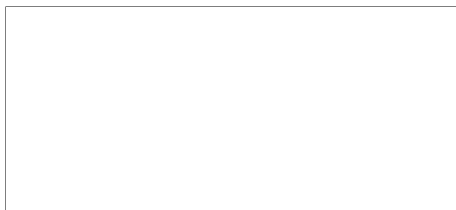
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- 2 -



- b. Between 8 a.m. and noon on 6 May, all 23 MIG-15's carried out single flights of approximately 30 minutes' duration. At 12 o'clock, one MIG took off towing a sleeve target. Before the takeoff, the target was pulled in a straight line behind the towing aircraft. The rope was tight before the aircraft took off, and on no occasion was any slack observed. Three minutes after the aircraft took off, two MIG-15's followed in formation and carried out mock attacks. It was clearly observed that the aircraft swerved away and over the target without attacking it. In no instance was any firing observed. After approximately 30 minutes all three aircraft took off with a towed target, and two attacking planes followed. This activity continued until 7 p.m. On each occasion, all three aircraft were airborne for approximately 30 minutes. Between 7 and 9 p.m., single MIG-15's took part in night flying, consisting of short circuits.
 - c. At 7 a.m. on 6 May, a LI-2 landed, taking off again at 9:10 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. one single-seat, single-piston-engine, single-wing aircraft landed, taking off again at 4 p.m. At 7 p.m. one LI-2 landed, taking off again at 8:30 p.m.
 - d. No flying took place from 7 to 10 May.
 - e. There was no flying from 14 to 18 May. The 12 MIG-15's normally parked near Biesenthaler Strasse taxied on the runway and on the taxi tracks, but did not take off.
 - f. At 10:45 a.m. on 17 May two twin-jet aircraft flew across the airfield at a height of approximately 1,000 meters. They made several flights across the airfield before flying away.
4. Airfield Installations:

With the exception of two new sheds measuring three by four meters, constructed on Biesenthaler Strasse, there was no change in the airfield installations.



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