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The exercises at reinforced regimental level of Soviet Army units which started in early August 1954 were continued until late August. The final phase of the summer training period began on 20 September when some of the divisions started their fall maneuvers after a preparatory interval of two to three weeks. Up to the present time, the divisions of the mechanized armies are generally conducting their exercises separately, while those of the two rifle armies are presumably practicing at corps level. The time and extent of the maneuvers observed so far correspond to those of the fall of 1953. It can be expected, therefore, that the return of the troops to the winter quarters will not be completed prior to mid-October.

The personnel exchange movement usually conducted in the fall started on 22 September when empty trains were dispatched to the east. First recruit shipments arrived in the zone after 25 September.

The KVP fall maneuvers were considerably impeded by harvest employment and, in some instances, exercises had to be interrupted. In replacement for the troops expected to be discharged in October and November, major contingents of recruits were observed arriving in September. Extensive security measures on the occasion of Tag der Republik on 7 October and of the elections on 17 October were ordered by the HVDVP.

GERMANY

Order of Battle.

- 1. No changes regarding commitment, combat efficiency and quartering of army units in the GDR were discernible during the period from 1 September to 1 October 1954.

Training of Combat Divisions.

- 2. The training phase of exercises at reinforced regimental level and of exercises by mixed combat groups of more than regimental strength,

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in some instances conducted in two groups, was completed in late August. Reports on this subject, which were received after 1 September only confirmed the time, identity of the troops participating and, in some cases, the course of these exercises.* Only from the area of the Third Shock Army were reports obtained on exercises by reinforced regimental groups of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div held in the area of FRITZIER southwest of HAGENOW from 18 to 21 August, and of the 19th Gds Mecz Div in the area east of LETZLING HEATH from 17 to 22 August. The following is an example of the exercises conducted by the 19th Gds Mecz Div:

At 1000 on 17 August, a large troop column which came from LETZLING HEATH, arrived at SCHERNEBECK, where it was divided into four groups. Two groups, representing the bulk, with 17 JS tanks, 41 T-34/85s, 14 SP guns, 8 amphibious cars, 2 large assault boats, 40 trucks with pontoons, 6 x 122-mm field howitzers, 16 light and medium AT guns, 8 x 37-mm AA guns and 60 trucks with infantry advanced toward SCHOENWALDE, while the third and fourth groups as northern and southern flank protection, proceeded toward the Elbe River. The northern group consisted of about 80 tanks and 30 trucks occupied by soldiers; the southern group consisted of about 20 to 25 tanks, about 30 guns and 20 trucks with troops. The northern group covered the northern edge of Weissewarthe Forest and, together with other elements, advanced as far as BOELSDORF on the Elbe River; the southern group proceeded toward the east and reached the area of JERCHEL, south of BUCH. The bulk marched from SCHERNEBECK to the area of BUCH via SCHOENWALDE. The columns, which did not move in dispersed formation in depth, were apparently directed by radio. The Elbe River was crossed in the BUCH area in the evening of 17 August on two or four ferries. The crossing operation continued during the night. Throughout the day, the crossings were protected by 6 MiG-15s. On 18 August, 20 T-34/85s, 5 SP guns, 12 x 122-mm field howitzers, 6 x 76-mm AT guns, 16 light and medium mortars and 20 trucks with soldiers and numerous vehicles arrived from deep in the training area and crossed the river. During the night of 19 August, the troops were again ferried to the western bank of the river and, from there marched toward the west in close column. The exercise was repeated on 21 August but the troops advanced only as far as the Elbe without crossing the river. The units returned to LETZLING HEATH during the night of 21 August.

Since it is seldom that a large-scale exercise can be fully covered by one source, the above exercise was given in detail. The fact that the maneuver was repeated after a short time interval shows the schooling system of Soviet training. It may also be mentioned that, at least during this exercise, no observations indicating atomic warfare defense were made. The individual march groups did not even move in dispersed formation in depth.

3. During the first three weeks in September, the training of combat divisions was concentrated on the troop training grounds and in the vicinity of these training grounds. This training period probably served the preparation of the units for the coming fall maneuvers.

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The units which remained at the posts also continued their training in the vicinity of the posts. Firing and combat practices there as well as at the troop training grounds were conducted at a low level. For information on the fall maneuvers, see paragraph 6 below.

Training of Special Units.

4. According to the summer training program, firing practices at ALTENGRABOW, JUETERBOG, WUSTROW and LETZLING HEATH gradually terminated during the first half of September and were generally completed in mid-September. Apparently only at WUSTROW Peninsula were firing practices by AAA units of the GSFG still conducted during the second half of the month. This special training for artillery and tank units can generally be considered completed with the beginning of the fall maneuvers on 20 September.

On the basis of information obtained during the preceding months, the occupation of the below-mentioned firing ranges was determined as follows:

a. ALTENGRABOW firing range:

Of the IV Arty Corps

34th Arty Div 1 and 2 September, return of elements of the division (2 shipments).

Of the Eighth Gds Army

During the period from 1 to 16 September, 14 troop trains were dispatched from ALTENGRABOW to the army area. Only some of these trains carried light AAA units. The shipments went back to the three troop training grounds in Thuringia and to the posts of GOTHA, PLAUVEN and GLAUCHAU. It can be assumed that artillery units of all four combat divisions and of the corps troops were at ALTENGRABOW from the second half of August up to mid-September.

Of the Third Shock Army

10th Gds RL Regt from 5 to 10 August, from GUESTROW (1 or 2 shipments)

4th Gds Arty Brig from 7 to 13 August, from SCHWERIN (2 shipments)

AAA units/19th Gds Mecz Div from 31 July to 4 September, from HILLERSLEBEN (1 or 2 shipments)

Of the First Gds Mecz Army

U/1 Arty Brig after 4 August, from KOENIGSERUECK (2 shipments)

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Of the Second Gds Mecz Army

1st Mecz Div from 20 August to 9 September,
from DOEBERITZ (2 shipments with
light AAA and armored personnel
carriers)

12th Gds Tank Div from 12 August to 7 September,
from NEURUPPIN (1 shipment)

Of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army

6th Gds Mecz Div from 7 August to 4 September, from
BERNAU (1 shipment)

Presumably of the 25th Tank Div from 10 August to 8 September,
from TEMPLIN (1 shipment)

U/1 unit up to 8 September, from FUERSTENWALDE
(1 shipment).

The permanent occupation remained unchanged up to the first half of September. Units believed to be still stationed there at that time included about 5 brigades of the IV Arty Corps and 2 artillery brigades of the Third Shock Army. On 25 September, units of the IV Arty Corps began a retransfer to the posts of PUTSDAM and RATHENOW where advance parties had already arrived at the winter quarters several days before. An advance party was also observed preparing the winter quarters of the 20th Army AT Arty Brig of the Third Shock Army in BRANDENBURG on 22 September.

It is expected that elements of the seven artillery brigades which were permanently stationed at the firing range during the summer months have been continuously, or will be, involved in the fall maneuvers. No details are yet available.

b. JUETTERDOG firing range:Of the Eighth Gds Army

39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div from 16 to 23 September, AAA from
OHRDRUF (1 shipment)

57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div from 16 to 24 September, AAA from
KINDEL (1 shipment)

Of the First Gds Mecz Army

8th Gds Mecz Div from 16 to 25 September, AAA from
LEISNIG (1 shipment)

U/1 AAA units including some of the 8th Gds Mecz Div from 16 to 25 September, from
KOENIGSBRUECK (2 shipments)

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Of the Second Gds Mecz Army

2d Light Arty Brig up to 24 August (arrival and departure from and to DOEBERITZ by road)

Of the Third Gds Mecz Army

9th Mecz Div up to 27 August and 19 September, from FEITZ and COTTBUS (artillery and tanks) (2 and 1 shipment)

Of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army

7th Gds Mecz Div up to 3 September, from LIEBEROSE (1 shipment)

Up to the second half of September, the firing range was also continuously used for firing practices by units of the Third Gds Mecz Army, predominantly by army troops, and by elements of the 14th Gds Mecz Div and 6th Gds Tank Div.

c. WUSTROW firing range:Of the IV Arty Corps

2d Gds AAA Div from 13/14 August up to 21 and 28 September, from WUENS DORF (2 shipments to WUSTROW and 3 shipments from WUSTROW were covered)

6th Gds AAA Div from 16 July to 30 August (3 shipments) and from 15 to 23 September (about 5 shipments) from CHEMNITZ and AUE

32 AAA Div up to 17 September, from KUESTRIN (1 shipment).

Of the Eighth Gds Army

13th AAA Div from 7 July to 27 August, from LEIPZIG-SCHOENAU and WEIMAR (1 shipment each)

Of the Third Shock Army

3d Gds AAA Div from 8 July to 27 August and on 14 September, from MAGDEBURG (2 shipments)

AAA units/18th Mecz Div from 23 August to 20 September, from SCHWEINRICH (2 shipments).

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Of the First Gds Mecz Army

4th Gds AAA Div from 27 June to 29 August and on 19 September, from DRESDEN-KLOTZSCHE (2 shipments)

Of the Second Gds Mecz Army

31st AAA Div up to 16 and 31 August and on 21 September, from SCHOENWALDE (1 shipment each)

AAA units/1st Mecz Div from 17 July to 10 September, from DOEBERITZ (2 shipments)

Of the Third Gds Mecz Army

62d AAA Div from 15 July up to late August, from KOCHSTEDT (2 shipments)

Of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army

63d AAA Div up to 9 August, from FUERSTENWALDE (1 shipment)

Air force AAA units (1 shipment each):

from WELZOW	up to 23 August
from WERNEUCHEN	from 11 July to 20 September
from ELLERHOLZ	from 12 July to 20 September

d. LETZLING HEATH firing range:

The following tank units were engaged in firing practice:

Elements of the tank SP artillery regiment/57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	from 12 to 18 August, from KINDEL (1 shipment)
Tank unit of the 20th Gds Mecz Div	up to 1 September, from CRAWINKEL (1 shipment)
Tank details of the 10th Gds Tank Div	from 30 August to 10 September, and from 14 to 21 September, from KRAMPNITZ (1 shipment each)
Elements of the U/i tank training battalion/25th Tank Div	from 20 to 27 September, from FRENZLAU (1 shipment).

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Training of Engineer Units.

5. The special training of engineer units at the water training sites of ROSSLAU, DESSAU-AKEN, JERICHOW and, presumably, also in the BITTKAU area was interrupted in late July and early August, probably because of flood damage.* Most of the elements withdrew to their units, except for elements of the U/1 engineer regiment of the GSFG which remained in the DESSAU-AKEN area. The latter units, however, are believed to have also been transferred from DESSAU-AKEN to their winter quarters in BERNBURG in late August or early September. The water training site at MUEHLBERG on the Elbe River was used for special training up to the period under review; elements of the 286th Engr Bn of the 9th Tank Div from RIESA were identified there from 14 to 17 September. The special training of the engineer troops of the GSFG on Hege Lake near SPERENBERG was also continued until early September. It is thought that the troops there practiced with a new type USSR amphibious car with caterpillar drive after mid-June. This amphibious car, although called "amphibious tank" by one of the sources, does not seem to be a tank since it is not equipped with heavy armament. Because of heavy security measures in the training area, a definite identification of the new type amphibious car had not yet been made by early September.

After 11 September, numerous engineer units started transferring to the middle course of the Elbe River in the GUESEN-FERCHLAND section. The following troops and materiel arrived there:

11 September: From SPERENBERG to GUESEN, 2 shipments including 36 new type amphibious cars with caterpillar drive and crews. Through MAGDEBURG toward STENDAL, 2 shipments with unidentified engineer units.

13 September: From SCHWERIN to TANGERHUEPPE, 1 shipment, presumably with engineer troops of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps.

15 September: From FRANKFURT/Oder to GUESEN, 1 shipment consisting of 13 flatcars with sideracks, cargo of which was covered with boards. The train presumably carried additional amphibious cars with caterpillar drive from the USSR.

22 September: From NEUBRANDENBURG to FERCHLAND, 2 shipments with major elements of the 88th Engr Regt of the Second Gds Mecz Army.

24/25 September: From TEMPLIN to Ferchland, about 2 shipments including one which is believed to have carried an engineer unit, presumably of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army or the 25th Tank Div.

In this connection, the following engineer units which moved to ALTENGRABOW during the same period must be mentioned:

12 September: From BERNBURG, 4 shipments, presumably with strong elements of the U/1 Engr Regt of the GSFG. From ALTRUPPIN, 1 shipment, presumably with engineer troops of the 12th Gds Tank Div.

13 September: From BERNAU, 1 shipment with elements of the engineer battalion of the 6th Gds Mecz Div.

19 September: From NEUSTRELITZ, 1 shipment, presumably with engineer troops of the 9th Gds Tank Div.

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The units at the destinations mentioned were not observed at training. The new amphibious cars were possibly transferred for training reasons. This was indicated by the fact that, having practiced in the stagnant water of the Hege Lake, the troops did not then practice on the Elbe River. A participation in these exercises of engineer troops of the Second and Fourth Gds Mecz Armies is possible but could not yet be confirmed. It appears also possible that the massing of strong engineer elements in a limited area serves the following two purposes: first, special training on water and land and second, subsequent employment in the fall maneuvers in the areas mentioned. This early transfer of engineer troops to scheduled fall maneuver areas as a tactical move is rather doubtful since this movement is entirely foreign to operations under wartime conditions. It is now safe to assume that the engineer units of the GSFG were employed during the fall maneuver of the reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps, since the exercise extended from the area of WIESENBURG - BELZIG in a northwesterly direction as far as the area south of STENDAL. During which the corps may have crossed the Elbe River in the BURG - GUESSEN section.

It is also probable that units of the 36th Pbn Bridge Regt of the GSFG also participated in these exercises since elements departed from the Seeckt Kaserne in MAGDEBURG on 14 September and because the kaserne was reported to be lightly occupied until late September. Individual components were presumably transferred to KUMMERSDORF for special exercises on one train the same day, while other elements may have also been transferred to the GUESSEN-FERCHLAND area. The whole subject can be clarified only after additional reports on the course of the present exercises in this area and information on return movements have been obtained.

Fall Maneuvers.

6. The fall maneuvers which represent the final phase of the summer training period began about the same time as in 1953. According to information obtained up to the present time, the exercises were still under way on 1 October. The termination of the final maneuvers is not yet discernible. Last year, the last fall maneuver of the Eighth Gds Army did not terminate before 15 October. So far as has been determined, the present fall maneuvers are being conducted at reinforced division level in the mechanized armies and at reinforced corps level in the rifle armies. The following is a first picture on exercises held so far, broken down according to army areas:

a. Eighth Gds Army Area:

Individual information received from this area furnished only an incomplete picture on possible large-scale exercises. There were, at first, the following observations which were indicative of large-scale exercises in the area between OHRDRUF and the Saale River bend south of JENA about 26 September: individual troop trains with tanks and artillery units along the ERFURT-WEIMAR-JENA line in both directions on and after 20 September, the transfer of strong elements of the army artillery brigades from ALTENBURG after 2 September, the unconfirmed arrival of troops on

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10 trains in the area of OHRDRUF troop training grounds from GOTHA on 25 September, and an incomplete report on a river crossing of tank units in the ERFURT area. The following observations, however, are contradictory to the above cited indications: the unchanged occupation of KINDEL troop training grounds up to 29 September, the scheduled departure from KINDEL of troops not before 10 October, and the return of units to the kasernes in WEIMAR during the night of 27 September. It is not clear that exercises in this army area were conducted after about 25 September. There are no other indications whether the troops will return from KINDEL to the winter quarters or will transfer to large-scale exercises after 10 October.

b. Third Shock Army Area:

No definite picture has yet been obtained on large-scale maneuvers already conducted by units of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps including the 7th Gds Tank Div which was stationed in the HUETTEN area during the summer months. It appears that exercises with movements from south to north were conducted in the area of LETZLING HEATH and farther to the north from about 20 to 23 September. The return to HILLERSLEBEN through MAGDEBURG of tank units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div on 7 trains from 23 to 27 September, the departure toward the east through MAGDEBURG of wheeled elements of the 7th Gds Tank Div in the evening of 25 September, and the return by rail to ROSSLAU of about 1,800 troops on 27 September indicate that joint practices by both divisions were conducted and completed in the area mentioned. A participation of units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div appears possible but cannot yet be ascertained. The fact that army troops were transferred from the area southwest of STENDAL to the exercises of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps supports the assumption that these units were also involved in the maneuvers in the area of LETZLING HEATH.

The final exercises of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps became evident after 25 September when large-scale transport movements from the area of the two divisions (area SCHWERIN-HAGENOW and SCHWEINRICH troop training grounds) to the assembly area of WIESENBURG, BELZIG and BRUECK were observed, and when major columns moved from the direction of LUDWIGSLUST through PERLEBERG toward the south on the evenings of 25 and 26 September. The transport movements lasted until 27 September. During the same period, the following units arrived in the assembly area: army troops from the VINZELBERG area (southwest of STENDAL) in 5 shipments and presumably 6 other shipments from MAGDEBURG, elements of the 34th Arty Div from POTSDAM on 4 trains, and units of the 3d Gds AT Arty Brig from ROSTOCK and of the 4th AT Arty Brig from FRORA, the latter by road. Between 12 and 22 September, the army established a fuel supply point for this exercise in Stuelper Forest, east of JUETERBOG. Numerous traffic MPs and heavy vehicular traffic observed in the large BURG-TANGERMUENDE area on 27 September indicate that the reinforced corps advanced from the assembly area toward the northwest, possibly with a crossing of the Elbe River in the GUESEN-FERCHLAND section. (Compare with information on the concentration of strong engineer elements in this area mentioned in paragraph 5). An unconfirmed

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report on tank exercises in the area of BURG and STENDAL on 1 October supports this assumption about the direction of the attack. In case the 207th Mtz Rifle Div had not yet conducted a final exercise after 20 September, it is plausible that it was employed as the enemy group on the western bank of the Elbe River during the maneuver of the reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps.

c. First Gds Mecz Army Area:

Two reports on possible fall maneuvers in this army area have been received so far. They cover the period from 25 to 27 September and indicate that large-scale exercises with westward movements were started on 25 September in the area of KOENIGSERUECK (Laussnitz Heath). On the other hand, intensive movements of AAA units from the area of ZEITHAIN toward GROSSENHAIN in the evening of 26 September and the arrival at ZEITHAIN of a major tank unit on 27 September which had possibly crossed the Elbe River near MUEHLBERG and was subsequently entrained at WUELKNITZ railroad station indicated an exercise in this area. These observations lead to the conclusion that maneuvers were held in the KOENIGSERUECK-ZEITHAIN area which terminated with the entrainment of troops on 27 September and which, according to motor vehicle and tank [redacted] involved components of all units. The above conclusion is contradicted by coinciding observations, for example from GRIMMA, according to which the engineer battalion of the 8th Gds Mecz Div and other units of the division and the division commander were still at the post. It is possible, therefore, that the First Gds Mecz Army conducted an exercise at army level but only with combat teams of the three divisions and army troops.

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d. Second Gds Mecz Army:

The following information on fall maneuvers in this area has been obtained:

- (1) 1st Mecz Div: In the evenings of 20 and 21 September, strong components of the division organized into several march groups transferred from DOEBERITZ toward KREMEN, east of NEURUPPIN, to the southeastern area of the SCHWEINRICH troop training grounds (NEUGLIENICKE sector). In the morning of 22 September, an exercise with an east-west course from the area of ZUEHLEN began there. It involved about 100 tanks. A small tank unit of the division, presumably the enemy group, moved from DOEBERITZ to NETZEBAND (west sector of NEUGLIENICKE section) on 20 September. The exercise terminated about noon on 23 September. The track-laying elements returned from NETZEBAND to DOEBERITZ on 9 trains between 23 and 25 September, while the wheeled elements marched back to their post from the area north of NEURUPPIN during the same period. The maneuver also involved elements of the 2d Light Arty Brig from DOEBERITZ and army troops from SCHOENWALDE.

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- (2) 12th Gds Tank Div: Major components of the division left NEURUPPIN during the night of 29 September. On 1 October, the post was only lightly occupied. No detailed information on the exercise of the division is yet available. It can be assumed, however, that the division will use the FUERSTENBERG-SCHWEINRICH area, especially since no troop movements were observed in the area south of NEURUPPIN on 1 October.

Until 27 September, the units of the 9th Gds Tank Div continued conducting individual small-scale exercises including firing practices in the areas of NEUBRANDENBURG - PENZLIN and WESENBERG - MIROW.

e. Third Gds Mecz Army Area:

On 28 and 29 September, 10 troop trains were dispatched from JUETERBOG to the quartering area of the 9th Mecz Div (COTTBUS, LUEBBEN, PEITZ and WUENSDORF). According to the composition of the trains, the units were predominantly tank elements. From this information, it was concluded that the division conducted an exercise from the FORST TAUER troop training grounds toward the northwest as far as the area east of JUETERBOG during the time from about 24 to 28 September. No details are yet available. Up to about 25 September, the 14th Gds Mecz Div and the 6th Gds Tank Div were still at their quarters and in the WERDER-MARKENDORF summer camp respectively.

f. Fourth Gds Mecz Army:

After 20 September, the following large-scale exercises were conducted by the four combat divisions subordinate to the army:

- (1) 10th Gds Tank Div: On 21/22 September, major components of the division transferred from the quartering area to the PEITZ - FORST - KLINGE area on 19 trains. These units returned on 26 and 27 September to the posts of POTSDAM and KRAMPNITZ, having been dispatched from the railroad stations of GRUNOW and BEESKOW on 9 trains or having reached the posts by road from the direction of MICHENDORF. According to the troop movements by road and rail, it must be concluded that the exercise was directed from the assembly area northeast of COTTBUS toward the northwest as far as the area north of the LIEBEROSE troop training grounds.
- (2) 7th Gds Mecz Div: The fall maneuver of this division began on 19 September when elements of the 24th Gds Mecz Regt from BERLIN-SCHOENEMEIDE were shipped to NEUHAUSEN, south of COTTBUS on 2 trains, and when elements of the 25th Gds Mecz Regt stationed in FRANKFURT/Oder moved to the south. No movements of the exercise, which probably began about 20 September, have so far been reported. After dusk on 23 September, the first elements of the division returned to FRANKFURT/Oder. Up to 27 September, additional strong elements returned to FRANKFURT/Oder and FUERSTENWALDE by road and rail from COTTBUS, PEITZ and LIEBEROSE. On the basis of these

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shipments and an unconfirmed report, the exercise may have commenced in the HOYERSWERDA-COTTBUS-SPREMBERG area and may have extended from there toward the north. Since the exercise of the 7th Gds Mecz Div began prior to that of the 10th Gds Tank Div, it appears improbable that the two divisions engaged in joint exercises although they practiced in the same area.

The detachment of GSFG signal units or GSFG command echelons from WUENS DORF to COTTBUS on 18 September underlines the importance of the above two exercises.

The two other divisions of the army had not yet started large-scale exercises prior to late September. Elements of the 25th Tank Div were transferred from TEMPLIN to FERCHLAND on 24/25 September and components of the U/i tank training battalion from FRENZLAU conducted combat firing in LETZLING HEATH from 20 to 27 September. In the morning of 2 October, a large officers' meeting was held in the army headquarters building in EBERSWALDE. The briefing may have been the introduction of further exercises.

Personnel Exchange

7. The present personnel exchange movement began on 22 September when the first empty [] trains were assembled and dispatched toward the east via the railroad stations of KUESTRIN, GUBEN and FRANKFURT/Oder. Similar to the practice of preceding years, the trains had

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[] The first train with soldiers was observed in the zone on 25 September. It probably carried recruits, since corresponding information on the arrival of unusually young soldiers was also received from WEIMAR. The departure of discharges is expected any time, since several of the army units had completed their fall maneuvers in late September.

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The date of the beginning of the present exchange movement is about 3 weeks earlier than that of 1953. The following may be the reason for this measure:

- a. From Soviet press dispatches and documents from the USSR, it was inferred that the Soviets are making efforts to settle a large percentage of the discharges in areas newly opened to agriculture. The early discharge would make it possible for the personnel concerned to arrive in these areas before harvest of the potato and beet crop.
- b. According to the compulsory service law, the 1931 and 1932 classes must be discharged this fall, since the two classes were inducted in 1951. If the Soviets have actually decided to follow this law and if, at the same time, they intend to keep the present manpower potential, the rotation of personnel would take twice as much time as in the preceding years. It is therefore possible that, in order to have the exchange program terminate prior to the middle of the winter, it was started earlier than usual and with an increased number of [] trains employed.

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Transportation.

9. During the reported period, the traffic situation of the GDR railroads was influenced by the following three outstanding features:
- Employment of 619 special trains in connection with the Leipzig Fall Fair;
 - beginning of harvest shipments which inaugurated the fall peak traffic;
 - beginning of the Soviet fall maneuvers on 29 September 1954.

Complete information on the handling of these special transportation operations had not yet been received by the end of the month. While it is believed that traffic to and from Leipzig during the fall fair was smooth, there was an acute shortage of boxcars after mid-September.

10. On 13 September 1954, railroad coal stocks amounted to 5.4 days' requirements. This represents an improvement over the situation in the preceding month when only 4.4 days' requirements of coal were available. In view of the peak traffic usually occurring during the fall months, the coal situation must, however, still be considered critical. This situation may explain the tendency of increasing the consumption of raw brown coal for locomotives, although the use of such coal is uneconomical. During the reported period, the proportion of hard coal in the total consumption of coal for the first time exceeded 50 percent. The monthly coal consumption of the GDR railroads is at present about 625,000 tons of briquette units.

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11. Compared to the preceding month, rail border traffic increased by 216 westbound and 116 eastbound cars per day. A noteworthy feature in this border traffic was the continuous arrival of trucks for Soviet army units in Germany and the return of deactivated trucks to the USSR within the framework of the motor vehicle replacement program. For details, see paragraph 13 below.

Miscellaneous.

12. a. The GOERLITZ railroad station is scheduled to be enlarged it will have a daily capacity of 5 pairs of trains during 1954.
- b. The KOETHEN-HALLE section of the HALLE-MAGDEBURG railroad line was double-tracked.
- c. On 1 August 1954, a total of 5,729 locomotives were available; of these, 3,821 units were serviceable.

Supply.

13. The information on the arrival in Germany of military supply goods from the USSR is incomplete. From the day when the last monthly report was completed until 15 September approximately 3,000 tons of ammunition and an additional 300 trucks arrived in the GDR, while about 850 trucks were returned to the USSR. Definite conclusions about the implications of these shipments cannot be made at this time because no information on the total volume of this type of supply traffic is available. No special features were noticed in the intra-zonal military supply traffic.

Kasernierte Volkspolizei.

Order of Battle

14. No changes in the OB of the KVP were determined during the reported period.

Training and Commitment for Harvesting Work

15. Field training and advanced combat practice firing which proceeded according to schedule until mid-August were affected to an increasing degree by the employment of major KVP elements for harvesting work after that date. Until late August, exercises at regimental level continued although with greatly reduced personnel strengths. After early September, various units discontinued these exercises. In mid-September, some KVP units had more than 50 percent of their personnel detached for harvest work. It appears that infantry units and mechanized regiments were affected by harvesting activities, while the artillery and tank units generally continued their training program without major disturbances.

In detail, the following may be said about KVP training activities:

- a. Corps North
Corps and division artillery units except for AAA units were continuously rotated to the Jaegerbrueck firing range until late

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September. The regimental exercises of Divisions Eggesin and Prenzlau took place almost exclusively in the vicinity of military posts. The only maneuver held in the area of GROSS SCHEWENBERG north of BERLIN was that of Division Prenzlau in which the headquarters of the artillery and tank regiment and the bulk of the 1st and 2d Inf Regts participated with the division headquarters. By 25 September, the fall inspections of Divisions Prenzlau and Eggesin were essentially completed. Of Division Schwerin, the 1st Inf Regt, the signal battalion and the engineer battalion had left their military posts between 2 and 22 September. It is unknown in what areas these units held their exercises.

b. Corps South

Until early September, the bulk of Mech Div Dresden was at the WEISSWASSER training grounds. Of Infantry Divisions Halle and Erfurt, only elements of their tank regiments were observed at this troop training grounds. From 14 to 19 August, elements of Division Erfurt including units from GOTHA held an exercise in the TAMBACH/DIETHARZ area in the Thuringian Forest. In late August, the ZUELLSDORF firing range was heavily occupied by artillery units of Corps South. On 19 August, the bulk of the tank regiments from SPREMBERG was still in the WEISSWASSER area, while the 3d Mech Regt and the mortar regiment appeared to be in LOEBAU at the same time. Specific information on the handling of the fall inspections have not been received from the area of Corps South.

c. Mechanized Division Potsdam

In spite of the detachment of units to harvesting work and in spite of the fall inspections, the medium tank regiment from GRANENBURG continued its field training at the troop training grounds near KLIETZ until early October. The last rotation of units between the military post and the training area took place between 26 and 28 September. The 2d Mech Regt returned from the troop training grounds to POTSDAM on 2 September. On 3 September, the heavy tank regiment moved from BURG into the KLIETZ area. About 18 September, Division Potsdam held a command post exercise in which all regiments and independent units participated with their headquarters and cadres. Between 17 and 21 September, the Premnitz Mortar Regt was not observed at its military post; it probably practiced at the troop training grounds in the FERCHELS-MAHLITZ area east of KLIETZ. In POTSDAM, the fall inspections were carried out about 15 September.

d. Firing Practices of AAA Units

During the reported period, the AAA firing range near ZINGST on the Daras Peninsula was continually occupied by training AAA units. Firing at towed-sleeve targets was practiced there. In early September, the Altwarp AAA Regt of Mechanized Division Eggesin returned from ZINGST to its military post. The AAA

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battalions of Divisions Erfurt and Halle moved to ZINGST on 5 September. Elements of these units returned to HALLE on 17 September and 29 September.

It cannot be determined that KVP units will hold further exercises in the course of October possibly at a level exceeding that of a reinforced regiment. If the KVP personnel detached for harvesting work return to their units in time, fall maneuvers could still be held between 7 October, the so-called "Day of the Republic", and 17 October, the date of the general elections.

Recruiting.

16. By the application of rather ruthless pressure in the recruiting campaign conducted, inductions into the KVP increased after late August. At some regiments of Corps North and Mech Div Potsdam, 120 to 150 recruits arrived in the first half of September. Since a portion of the KVP personnel which signed up to a 3-year term of service is due to be discharged in the second half of October and then is to be transferred into the reserve, it is absolutely necessary to recruit new personnel in order to keep KVP units at their authorized strength. From the 2d Inf Regt in FRENZLAU, about 200 men or about 15 percent of its actual strength are due to be discharged in October. Between 1 and 14 September, the same regiment received about 150 recruits. This indicates that the number of discharged and newly recruited personnel is about even.

General Police.

17. According to Order No 98/54 by the Chief of the German Volkspolizei dated 9 August 1954, new green uniforms and some new insignia of rank are scheduled to be used by the HVDVP after 1 October. The fire brigade units and factory police, will not, however, be affected by this order. The new uniforms are to be issued by 31 December 1955 in the following order: Police headquarters Berlin, HVDVP Berlin, Bezirk headquarters in Potsdam, Frankfurt, Cottbus, Neutranderburg, Schwerin, Rostock, Magdeburg, Halle, Leipzig, Dresden, Karl-Marx-Stadt, Erfurt, Gotha, and Suhl.
18. Extensive security measures, such as were observed during the last plebiscite and during the Berlin Four-Power Conference, were taken by the HVDVP on occasion of the "Day of the Republic" on 7 October and scheduled for the general elections on 17 October. The entire police force of the GDR was to be placed on an alert status from 1800 on 6 October to 0600 on 8 October and from 0000 on 16 October to 1200 on 18 October. There is a possibility that police forces in East Berlin will be reinforced by personnel from the zone. There are no indications that KVP units will also be employed on these days. An alerting of elements of the KVP would, however, not be an unusual measure.

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AUSTRIA and HUNGARYTraining.

19. Until about 20 September, major elements of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, the 13th Gds Mech Div and the units directly subordinate to the Central Group of Forces continued to practice at the DOELLERSHEIM troop training grounds. Elements of the 44th Gds Mech Regt of the 13th Gds Mech Div including elements of the 127th Tank Bn and of the artillery battalion of this regiment were again observed in VIENNA in the first 10 days of September. The units were employed for guard and security missions.

The bulk of the 23d AAA Div continued to practice at the APETLON AAA range until mid-September. Firing at towed-sleeve air targets was observed. AAA units of the Soviet Air Force and presumably also Soviet AAA units from Hungary also practiced at APETLON.

Personnel.

20. Since 12 September 1954, several rail shipments of recruits have arrived in Austria from the USSR.

Annex. Tabulation of activities and billeting areas of the Soviet divisions and independent units in the GDR.

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Present Location of Divisions and Independent Units in the GDR

<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
GSFG	6th Arty Div	21/22 September, return to RATHENOW from ALTENGRABOW of advance parties; 25 - 29 September, arrival at RATHENOW from ALTENGRABOW of major elements 65th Mort Brig and small elements 18th How Arty Brig (6 or 7 shipments).
	34th Arty Div	1/2 September, retransfer of elements to POTSDAM from ALTENGRABOW (2 shipments); 25 September, more components returned to the post. - 26 September, elements transferred from POTSDAM to the WIESENBURG area to participate in exercises of the reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps.
	25th Gds RL Brig	2 September, return of units which departed RATHENOW on 31 August. - 26 September: departure from RATHENOW of a unit with 24 rocket launchers, presumably for exercises of the reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps.
	124th Hv How Arty Brig	29 September, still at BRANDENBURG post.
	2d Gds AAA Div	Elements from WUENS DORF in WUSTROW from 13/14 August up to 21 and 28 September (2 shipments were observed moving to the training grounds and 3 shipments moving from the training grounds back to WUENS DORF).
	6th Gds AAA Div	Elements from CHEMNITZ and the JOHANN GEORGENSTADT area in KOENIGSBUECK up to 25 August (2 shipments). - Other elements from CHEMNITZ and the AUE area in WUSTROW from 16 July to 30 August (3 shipments) and from 15 to 28 September (about 5 shipments).
	32d AAA Div	Elements from KUESTRIN in WUSTROW up to 17 September (1 shipment). 25 September: 1 light regiment departed KUESTRIN toward the west, presumably to participate in exercise of reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps.
	36th Pon Bridge Regt	14 September, departure of strong elements from the Seeckt Kaserne (5287) in MAGDEBURG. Elements presumably transferred to KUMMERSDORF (1 shipment); other components presumably shipped to engineer exercises on the Elba River in the GUESSEN area. 25 September, the Seeckt Kaserne was less occupied than before.

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
GSFG	U/1 Engr Regt	Late August/ early September, presumably return to the post from DESSAU-AKEN area. 12 September, presumably transfer of major elements from BERNBURG to ALTENGRABOW (4 shipments); after 28 September, probably participated in exercises of the reinforced IX Mtz Rifle Corps.
<u>Eighth Gds Army</u>		
	13th AAA Div	Elements from WEIMAR and LEIPZIG-SCHOENAU in WUSTROW from 7 July to 27 August (1 shipment each).
	220th Hv Tank SP Regt	Light AAA of the regiment from GLAUCHAU presumably at ALFENGRABOW until 1 September (1 shipment).
	43th Gds Army Arty Brig and 38th Army AT Arty Brig	The bulk of the two brigades absent from the post from about 22 to 25 September, presumably for exercises.
<u>XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps</u>		
	308th Arty Brig	Up to 25 September at GERA post. In September, exercises near the post and in ZEITZ FORST.
	497th AAA Regt	Up to 25 September, the bulk presumably at RUDOLSTADT post.
	316th Gds RL Regt	Up to 27 September, the bulk presumably at OHRDRUF; major rear detail at SAALFELD post.
	380th Engr Bn	Presumably up to late September, elements in OHRDRUF and elements in RUDOLSTADT post.
	39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	From 16 to 23 September, light AAA from OHRDRUF in JUETERBOG (1 shipment); Artillery from PLAUE in ALTENGRABOW up to 16 September (1 shipment). - MEININGEN post not occupied to capacity prior to 20 September; PLAUE post still occupied to capacity up to 30 September. No exercises of the division observed.
	20th Gds Mecz Div	Tank details from CRAWINKEL in LETZLING HEATH until 1 September; light AAA of the division from CRAWINKEL at ALTENGRABOW until 12 September (1 shipment each); - 28/29 September, return by road of units permanently stationed in WEIMAR.

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	<u>XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps</u>	
	76th Arty Brig	Until 26 September, still at MERSEBURG post.
	498th AAA Regt	Until mid-September, still at NAUMBURG post.
	94th Gds RL Regt	The bulk presumably at the training grounds of the corps in September.
	57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	12 to 18 August, elements tank SP arty regt from KINDEL at LETZLING HEATH (1 shipment). - 16 to 24 September, artillery from KINDEL in JUETERBOG (1 shipment). - The bulk of the division at KINDEL up to late September.
	21st Gds Mecz Div	The bulk presumably in LOSSA up to mid-September.

Artillery units of the four divisions of the army and the corps troops were probably at ALTENGRABOW during the period from the second half of August up to mid-September. They came from the three training grounds and the posts of GOTHHA, FLAUVEN and GLAUCHAU. Between 1 and 16 September, a total of 14 trains returned to the army area from ALTENGRABOW.

After 20 September, unidentified transport movements in both directions were observed along the ERFURT-WEIMAR-JENA line. It is possible that exercises were conducted north and south of the ERFURT-WEIMAR line during the period from 20 to 28 September.

Third Shock Army

3d Gds AAA Div	Elements from MAGDEBURG at WUSTROW from 8 July to 27 August and on 14 September (2 shipments)
20th Army AT Arty Brig	The bulk probably at ALTENGRABOW until about 20 September. After 22 September, advance parties arrived at BRANDENBURG post.
136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	The bulk presumably at LETZLING HEATH up to 20 September.

LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps

Hq units	Probably involved in exercises of the corps in the area of LETZLING HEATH after 20 September.
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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	207th Mtz Rifle Div	Late September, probably fall maneuver in the area of LETZLING HEATH and/or on the Elbe River south of STENDAL. JAEVENTZ summer camp of the division occupied only by rear details on 30 September.
	19th Gds Mecz Div	AAA units from HILLERSLEBEN at ALTENGRABOW from 31 July until 4 September (2 shipments). - After 20 September, the bulk of the division participated in fall maneuvers in corps area.
	<u>IX Mtz Rifle Corps</u>	
	4th Gds Arty Brig	From 7 to 13 August, from SCHWERIN at ALTENGRABOW (2 shipments). - The bulk probably participated in exercises of the corps in the WIESENBURG-LETZLING HEATH area after 25 September.
	10th Gds RL Regt	From 5 to 10 August from GUESTROW at ALTENGRABOW (1 or 2 shipments). After 25 September, the bulk probably engaged in exercises of the corps in the WIESENBURG-LETZLING HEATH area.
	U/1 Engr Bn	13 September, elements from SCHWERIN shipped to TANCERHUNETTE (1 shipment). - After 25 September, the bulk probably engaged in exercises of the corps in the WIESENBURG-LETZLING HEATH area.
	94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	The bulk of the units from SCHWERIN and HAGENOW transferred to corps exercises in the WIESENBURG-LETZLING HEATH area after 25 September (by rail and road).
	18th Mecz Div	AAA units from SCHWEINRICH at WUSTROW from 23 August to 20 September (2 shipments). - After 25 September the bulk of the division transferred to corps exercises in the WIESENBURG-LETZLING HEATH area on 18 trains and by road.
	<u>First Gds Mecz Army</u>	
	4th Gds AAA Div	From 27 June to 29 August and on 19 September, from DRESDEN-KLOTZSCHE in WUSTROW (2 shipments).

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
First Gds Mecz Army	U/i Arty Brig	Elements from KOENIGSERUECK at ALTENGRABOW after 4 August (2 shipments).
	U/i RL Regt	The bulk presumably still at MEISSEN post in September.
	8th Gds Mecz Div	AAA units from LEISNIG and KOENIGSERUECK in JUETERBOG from 16 to 25 September (2 shipments).
	9th Tank Div	Up to the second half of September, the bulk in the ZEITHAIN area.
	11th Gds Tank Div	Up to the second half of September, the bulk in the KOENIGSERUECK area.

Components of all three divisions and army troops were probably engaged in exercises in the KOENIGSERUECK and ZEITHAIN area after 25 September.

<u>Second Gds Mecz Army</u>		
	31st AAA Div	Elements from SCHOENWALDE at WUSTROW up to 16 and 31 August and on 21 September (1 shipment each).
	2d Light Arty Brig	Up to 24 August, from DOEBERITZ for short-term firing practices in JUETERBOG (to and from the training grounds by road). - Elements engaged in fall maneuvers of the 1st Mecz Div from 20 to 26 September, reaching the training area by rail and road.
	90th Gds RL Regt	Elements presumably involved in the fall maneuver of the 1st Mecz Div from 21 to 25 September.
	88th (r) Engr Regt	The bulk transferred from NEUBRANDENBURG to FERCHLAND on the Elbe River on 22 September (2 shipments).
	1st Mecz Div	Up to 20 September, continuous exercises and firing practices at DOEBERITZ training grounds. AAA units from DOEBERITZ at WUSTROW from 17 July to 10 September (2 shipments). - Other light AAA units and armored personnel carriers from DOEBERITZ at ALTENGRABOW from 20 August to 9 September (2 shipments). - From 20 to 26 September, division exercise in the area of DOEBERITZ and

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<u>Group of Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
		the southeastern sector of SCHWEINRICH troop training grounds (movement to the training grounds by road and from the training grounds by road and rail, since the track-laying elements were dispatched from NETZEBAND on 9 trains and the wheeled elements departed by road).
	9th Gds Tank Div	19 September, 1 shipment from NEUSTRELITZ to ALTENGRABOW, presumably with elements of the 90th Gds Engr Bn. -- Up to late September, continuous small exercises and firing practices in the area of PENZLIN and west of NEUSTRELITZ.
	12th Gds Tank Div	12 August to 7 September, elements (AAA) from NEURUPPIN at ALTENGRABOW (1 shipment). 12 September, a shipment from NEURUPPIN to ALTENGRABOW, presumably with elements of the 205th Engr Bn. Up to mid-September, continuous exercises and firing practices in the southeastern sector of SCHWEINRICH training grounds (NEUGLIENICKE section).-- The bulk of the division left for a large-scale exercise during the night of 29 September.
<u>Third Gds Mecz Army</u>	62d AAA Div	From 15 July until late August from KOCHSTEDT in WUSTROW (2 shipments). -- 20 September, elements from KOCHSTEDT moved to south sector of LETZLING HEATH by rail, probably for fall maneuvers of the 7th Gds Tank Div.
	Other Hq units	Presumably at the posts until the second half of September.
	14th Gds Mecz Div	Up to the second half of September in the JUETERBOG area.
	9th Mecz Div	Artillery and tanks from PEITZ and COTBUS in JUETERBOG until 27 August and 19 September (2 and 1 shipment). 28/29 September, 10 trains, mainly with tank units, from JUETERBOG to the quartering area. Probably fall exercise of the bulk of the division in the PEITZ-JUETERBOG area from about 24 to 28 September.
	6th Gds Tank Div	Up to the second half of September. presumably still in Camp WERDER-MARKENDORF.

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	7th Gds Tank Div	Presumably fall maneuver in LEFZLING HEATH area from about 20 to 23 September; involving rear details from ROSSLAU which arrived by rail on 19 September. First elements observed to return to ROSSLAU between 25 and 27 September.
<u>Fourth Gds Mecz Army</u>	63d AAA Div	Elements from FUERSTENWALDE at WUSTROW up to 9 August (1 shipment). Additional components from EBERSWALDE presumably still at WUSTROW in September.
	71st Gds Light Arty Brig	The bulk still at TEMPLIN until late September.
	6th Gds Mecz Div	Artillery from BERNAU at ALTENGRABOW from 7 August to 4 September (1 shipment). - After 13 September, elements of the 22d Gds Engr Bn from BERNAU at ALTENGRABOW (1 shipment). The bulk of the division was at the posts until late September and engaged in continuous exercises in the vicinity of the posts; small elements were rotated to TEMPLIN up to mid-September.
	7th Gds Mecz Div	Up to 3 September, elements (artillery ?) from LIEBEROSE at JUETERBOG (1 shipment). - After 19 September, transfer of units from FRANKFURT/Oder and East-BERLIN to the area southeast of COTTBUS by rail; the bulk of the division presumably reached the training grounds by road from the LIEBEROSE training grounds. Subsequently division exercise which probably terminated on 23 September when the troops returned to the posts.
	10th Gds Tank Div	Tank details from KRAMPNITZ in LETZLING HEATH from 30 August to 10 September and from 14 to 21 September (1 shipment each). - 21/22 September, transfer of the bulk of the division on 19 trains of the COTTBUS-PEITZ-FORST assembly area for fall maneuvers which terminated on 25 September in the area northeast of BEESKOW. From there, retransfer to the billeting area on 10 trains and by road.
	25th Tank Div	From 10 August until 3 September, elements (artillery ?) from TEMPLIN in ALTENGRABOW; elements of the tank training battalion from FRENZLAU at LETZLING HEATH from 20 to 27 September (1 shipment each). - The bulk of the division still at TEMPLIN troop training grounds up to late September.

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