

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	[REDACTED]	25X1
TOPIC	Koethen Airfield			25X1
EVALUATION	[REDACTED]	PLACE OBTAINED	[REDACTED]	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT	[REDACTED]			25X1
DATE OBTAINED	[REDACTED]	DATE PREPARED	26 January 1955	25X1
REFERENCES				
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS				
This is UNEVALUATED Information				

[REDACTED] 25X1

1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Koethen airfield between 30 November and 22 December 1954: 25X1

30 November. Between 1000 and 1200, there was little air activity by MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s. The individual aircraft made local flights. A row of 7 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s was observed between the eastern hangars. No radio truck was observed at the field. However, a rod antenna was noticed in a revetment in the northeastern corner of the field. Two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s [REDACTED] were seen on the dispersal area in the southeastern corner of the field. Two soldiers worked on the alert aircraft. 25X1

1 December. Between 1515 and 1630, 4 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked in front of the western hangar and 1 MiG-15 or U-MiG-15 was seen in front of the northeastern hangar. A row of 17 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s was observed on the dispersal area at the northern edge of the landing field. Three radio trucks were parked near the gap in the fence east of the runway. Two searchlights were located near the eastern dispersal area while a third searchlight was in the extension of the runway outside of the fence. The airfield lights were on. Two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s [REDACTED] taxied to the take-off point. One aircraft took off, circled once over the field and disappeared toward the west. No additional air activity was observed. 25X1

7 December. Between 1230 and 1330, 6 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s [REDACTED] were parked without any arrangement in front of the southern most hangar of the group of hangars located in the eastern section of the field. A group of soldiers and a woman wearing civilian clothes were seen near the aircraft. Additional swept-back jet fighters observed at the eastern section of the field included 9 parked in a row in front of the northern most hangar and 2 inside of it. No air activity was observed. 25X1

8 to 20 December. There was no air activity. [REDACTED] On 17 December, maintenance work was being done on 3 swept-back jet fighters parked in front of the eastern hangars. The tail was removed from one plane and the parts of the jet engine could be seen. 25X1

21 December. Air activity was observed after 0830. At about 1300, two landings were made by MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s [REDACTED] 25X1

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22 December. No air activity was observed. <sup>1</sup>

2. Radio installation and radar installations.

During the air activity on 21 December, two radio trucks including one with an umbrella-shaped antenna, were parked just northwest of the gap in the fence. When air activity was discontinued, the two radio trucks were removed. No changes were observed on the stationary radio or radar installations which were previously reported.

3. Personnel

About 6 sub-lieutenants who were from 22 to 24 years old and had apparently arrived recently were led through the largest department store in Koethen by an older air force member who had repeatedly been seen in the town. The 6 new sub-lieutenants wore no decorations and their hair was not close cropped. They moved about in an awkward way. <sup>2</sup>

4. Fuel dump

On 16 December, 1 truck with 2 large barrels moved from the fuel dump in the northeastern corner of the field to the hangars. On 20 December, 1 officer and 2 soldiers were engaged in measuring the contents of a propped-up fuel container.

5. Air activity and aircraft strength

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On 4 December, no air activity was observed at the field. At about 1100, 2 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were towed out of the western hangar. Subsequently, maintenance work was done on the aircraft. Additional swept-back jet fighters were observed in the partially open hangar. <sup>1</sup>

1. Comment. It is believed that Koethen airfield is still occupied by 1 fighter regiment and 1 reconnaissance UNCODED equipped with MiG-15s. Only little air activity was observed.

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2. Comment. The xchange of flying and ground personnel during the fall season of each year was reported repeatedly.

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