

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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E-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY	USSR (Belorussian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Mechanized Troop Maneuvers near Baranovichi	DATE DISTR.	29 July 1955 25X1
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This is UNEVALUATED Information			

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- In March 1953, large-scale maneuvers by mechanized units of the Soviet Army took place just north of Pogonshitsa, a town about 18 km northeast of Baranovichi (N 53-08, E 26-02). In addition to tank units from Baranovichi, from Navshin, about 45 kilometers east-northeast of Baranovichi, and from Smol, about 85 kilometers northeast of Baranovichi, several other large mechanized units participated in these maneuvers. Along the roads in the area, several hundred T-34 and heavier type tanks, SP artillery, and rocket launchers. Several generals were in command of the troops which participated in the maneuvers. 25X1
- Before the maneuvers began and before the units assembled, the entire maneuver area was placed off-limits to the civilian population and was placed under the guard of armed men. All participating units came to the area in mechanical columns. The railroad line from Brest to Minsk was not used for transporting troops. The maneuvers lasted approximately one week. 25X1
- The commanding general of the Special (sic) Belorussian Military District (Belorusskiy osobyy voyennyy okrug -- BOVO), Marshal Timoshenko, came from Minsk to inspect the troops and to observe the maneuvers. 25X1
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- All roads in and around the maneuver area were completely ruined by the tanks; this damage to the roads evoked many complaints from the local inhabitants. Eventually, in summer 1953, the roads were repaired under the supervision of the rayon road administrations of Navshin and Baranovichi. 25X1

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