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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

*Index-M*

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A. Political-Economic

1. Suslov's Position

Suslov's standing was considerably strengthened by Zhukov's removal; he apparently advanced to a position second only to Khrushchev in the Communist Party Central Committee [redacted]

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(Comment: This assumption appears to be correct. Suslov, a doctrinaire intellectual, complements pragmatic ally-minded Khrushchev. So far no differences discernible.

2. Indication of planned Reshuffle in Soviet High Command Agencies.

Assumed in Moscow that reshuffle higher command agencies Soviet Army will continue. Communist Party Central Committee apparently plans action against several leading marshals, accusing them of being responsible for poor status of Soviet army in the beginning of, and strategic mistakes during, the war. Position of Marshals Vasilevski, Moskalenko, Timoshenko and even Sokolovski believed critical.

(Comment: Zhukov already accused of same mistakes by Konyev. Accusations can easily be extended to marshals mentioned:

Vasilevski: 1941 Deputy Chief of Staff and chief of Operations, at present no active assignment.

Timoshenko: 1940 People's Commissar for Defense, 1941 Commander of West Front, at present Commander of White-Russian MD.

Moskalenko: 1941 Deputy Commander Sixth Army, at present Commander of Moscow MD.

Sokolovski: 1941 Chief of Staff with Commander of West Front, at present Chief of Staff.

3. Moscow's Attempts to Interfere with NATO Conference.

Noted at reception [redacted] in Moscow on 11 Nov that Soviet functionaries addressed representatives of Western and neutral states differently with clear aim of increasing differences of opinion.

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(Comment: One of Moscow's many attempts to disturb increased cooperative tendencies of the West caused by Sputnik demonstrations [redacted]

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4. Berlin

Numerous reports confirm that preparations for tightening up of East Berlin and Soviet Zone will be completed by late Nov. Thus possible to put into effect planned measures about 1 Dec.

See also following supplements.

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B. Armed Forces

I. USSR and "United" Forces (Warren Pact)

Total Strength

Personnel Exchange (GDR-USSR)

Between 3 and 13 Nov, personnel shuttle trains crossing the border

incl:

USSR-GDR 5 loaded trains

GDR-USSR 3 loaded, 2 empty, 4 presum partially loaded trains



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(Comment.)

Thus, total of 22 personnel shipments crossed border since beginning of main personnel exchange program.

Observation of several troop shipments within zone in connection with Frankfurt/Oder, as well as unloading of 3 shipments with recruits in Frankfurt/Oder, tend to indicate that, in 1957, Frankfurt/Oder transient camp increasingly being utilized. No definite indications available on utilization of distribution points known from previous years.)

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II. Poland

Recruiting and Replacement Administration

In mid-1957, posters in Rosenberg/Upper Silesia indicated that members of the 1937-class were to be inducted for a 2-year basic training in Oct 57 and that inductees volunteering for a 20-month term as underground miners would be exempt from military service. A member of the 1937-class who, thereupon, reported for mining work at the pertinent registration office, the labor office Rosenberg, had to sign a contract and was immediately assigned to the Bobrek mine near Bauthen as carter below ground



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(Comment.)

Induction of members of 1937-class for basic training after Oct 1957 repeatedly reported. Believed that, as a result of reduction of Polish forces, only part of 1937-class to serve 2 and/or 3 years and the rest to receive short-term (3-month) training as already observed. Mining-instead-of-military-service campaign started 18 Aug 56. Possibly unsuccessful since, after announcement of second reduction of forces on 19 Aug 56, many people due for military service (about 50,000) expected not to be inducted. Labor shortage in mining further increased as a result of departure of Germans from Upper Silesia and reduction and/or discharge of Polish labor battalion personnel employed in mines. Labor Bn [redacted] members of which were employed in mining, observed in Bobrek until March 1957.)

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III. Czechoslovakia

Recruiting and Replacement Administration

Reported from several Czech cities that members of the 1938 and 1937-classes registered from draft in 1956 were inducted for 2-year basic military training in late Oct. 57. [redacted]

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(Comment.)

Induction of 1938-class expected. Bulk of 1937-class already inducted in 1956. Postponement of discharge of air force, tank and PS unit members reported for the first time. Discharge of army and air force personnel so far after 2 and 3 years, respectively, always in the fall. Accord to available info, PS unit members so far discharged after 27 months, i.e. in Jan. If info on prolonged term of service also with other branches of army correct, believed to be one of the measures expected in order to overcome personnel shortage in the fall of 1957. [redacted]

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Annex to Part B, 

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Personnel Exchange

Personnel shuttle trains observed betw 3 and 13 Nov, incl:

Note: C/B - converted boxcars

3 Nov	Brest-Litovsk - Frankfurt/Oder	54 C/B occupied		
4 Nov	Brest-Litovsk - Frankfurt/Oder	56 C/B occupied		
4/5 Nov	Cottbus distr. - Greifswald distr			
		116 axles	850 tons	
5/6 Nov	Greifswald " - Kostrzyn	116 "	700 "	
6 Nov	Frankfurt/Oder - Cottbus distr	116 "	700 "	
6 Nov	Brest-Litovsk - Frankfurt/Oder	56 C/B occupied		
7 Nov	Frankfurt/Oder - Kostrzyn	116 axles	700 tons	
8 Nov	Cottbus distr - Kostrzyn	116 "	700 "	
8/9 Nov	Greifswald distr- Kostrzyn	116 "	850 "	
9/10 Nov	Cottbus distr - Greifswald distr			
		120 "	1,000 "	
9/10 Nov	Cottbus distr - Kostrzyn	116 "	800 "	
10 Nov	Friest - Kuestrin	116 "	650 "	
11 Nov	Greifswald distr- Cottbus distr	116 "	850 "	
13 Nov	Cottbus distr - Kostrzyn	116 "	650 "	

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(Comment: Number of pers shuttle trains crossing the border from beginning of main pers exchange program on 31 Oct increased to 22. Shmnts with 700 tons weight presum partially loaded.

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[REDACTED]

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C. ARMYI. Sov Army in Rumania1. Location and Movements

Permanent occupation of Timiscara, Arad and Lipova with Sov tank units confirmed. Small Sov unit reported in Sannicolaul Mare 50 km WSW Arad. On 6 Jun 57, 6 Sov tanks seen there. During Hungarian revolution, higher echelon headquarters, tank repair shop and supply base for Soviet troops employed in Hungary located in Sannicolaul Mare. RR station blocked for civilian traffic for prolonged period. Sov troops loaded there and several 100 tank vehicles daily filled from rr tank cars. Sov aircraft landed area near rr station [REDACTED]

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(Comment: Info on Sov tank unit stationed in the Banat since 1946, probably 24th Tank Div, confirms prev assumptions. Other reports also indicate that elms of this div employed in suppression of Hungarian revolt, possibly via Periam-Sannicolaul Mare. During revolution, 1,003 armored and track-laying veh counted passing through Periam. Sov operational staff determined in Sannicolaul Mare area from Nov 56 to Jan 57. Since elms of Sov unit from Banat still believed stationed in southeast Hungary, Sannicolaul Mare possibly still supply base for these units.)

II. NVA/H1. Dispositions

On 23 Oct, elms 15th AAA regt Air Defense transferred from Strausberg-Eggersdorf, allegedly to Wolfen near Bitterfeld [REDACTED]

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(Comment: Previously reported that 15th AAA Regt/1st AAA Div Air Defense being activated in Wolfen.)

2. Order of Battle

In the spring of 1957, reequipment of 5th AAA Regt (Ueckermuende) was officially announced and started. By late Jun, all gun crews filled up to 1/6 and 37-mm AA guns of 4th AA Btry replaced by 4 x 100-mm AA guns, 1 x 14.5-mm AA machine gun and 1 SON-9 gun-laying radar. All other batteries allegedly also to receive 100-mm AA guns and regt to receive track-laying prime movers. Each battery to receive 6 guns (possibly war-time equipment). In late Jun, the 1st to 3d Btry still had 85-mm AA guns, the 5th and 6th Btry 37-mm AA guns which were not used for training at that time [REDACTED]

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(Comment: Arrival of 100-mm AA guns for AAA regt of MD reported for the first time. [REDACTED])

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[REDACTED] Assumed T/O of 3d and 5th AAA Regts after reequipment: 3 AA batteries, each with 6 x 85-mm AA guns and 3 AA batteries, each with 6 x 100-mm AA guns and at least 1 x 14.5-mm four-barreled AA machine gun for each battery. Such an organization largely corresponds to available

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observations on possible development with regts/1st AAA Div Air Defense, which may be scheduled to be organized into 3 battalions each of 3 batteries with 100-mm, 85-mm and 57-mm AA guns.

The AAA regt of mtz rifle div will receive 57-mm AA guns as standard weapons [redacted]

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(Comment: [redacted])

[redacted] It remains to be seen if and to what extent these regts will be equipped with twin-barreled AA guns on self-propelled mounts. Equipment with 85-mm AA guns which was planned and, in some cases, started in 1956, considered obsolete.)

Structural plan for arty regt of mtz rifle div provides for 2 battalions, each of 3 batteries with 6 x 122-mm hows, 1 bn of 3 batteries with 6 x 85-mm field guns and 1 bn of 3 batteries with 6 x 120 or 160-mm morts [redacted]

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(Comment: [redacted])

[redacted] However, 2 how arty bns not observed with arty regts of mtz rifle divs so far. If 4 bns are reported, they include 1 how bn, 2 gun bns with 76-mm and 85-mm guns and 1 bn with 120-mm morts.)

### 3. Training

Still undetermined if exercises at divisional level or above held in southern portion GDR in Oct. Individual observations as, for example, return shpmt from RBD Halle to Storkow, the rr station of Engr Bn Kueschensee, on 26 Oct may indicate such exercises during second half of Oct. No definite conclusions possible. Except for short-term utilization by individual units, firing ranges and tag grounds assumed to be vacant and units believed to be back at posts since late Oct/early Nov. During first 10 days Nov, usual barracks duty incl maintenance of veh, and weapon and advanced combat training up to reinforced battalion level. In some cases, training of recruits, groups of which kept apparently arriving since second half Oct. Ceremonies, in some cases followed by parades, held within barracks on 7 Nov, the 40th anniversary of Oct Revolution.

### 4. Logistics

On 23 Oct, 1 shpmt of 60 G (gondolar car) with brand-new, khaki-colored pontoons passed through Neuruppin en route from Brest Litovsk to Stendal area.

(Comment: Presum bound for bridge bldg engr regt Kliestz.)

## III. Poland

### Order of Battle

In Nov 1956, 34th Mecz Regt, [redacted] C/O Lt Col Makarewicz, located in Stolp. Regt subordinate to 8th Mecz Div, [redacted] C/O Col Gross in Koeslin. It was organized into 1st Rifle Bn with 2 rifle cos (each

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50 - 60 men), 1 mort co (6 x 82-mm mortars, 50 - 60 men), and 1 hv machine gun co; 2d Rifle Bn with 2 rifle cos, 1 AT co, 1 mort co, (each 30-50 men), and 1 sig pl; 3d Bn (NCO school) (90 men) with 2 cos; 9-month courses, tag of subleaders of regt; and tank bn (130 men, mostly NCOs) with 2 tank cos, each with 3 T-34s, 1 tank SP co with 3 JSU-122s and following stored veh: 58 new T-34s, 3 JSU-122s, 1 SU-100, i.e. a total of 71 arm veh with tank bn; arty bn with 76-mm field guns and 120-mm mortars; ren co with 4-5 BTR-40s and 20 sidecar motorcycles; engr unit of 60 men, sig unit of 60 men; maintenance unit (22 men) incl armorer artificier and mot veh pers); mot trans co (56 men) with 1 (adm) pl, 2 (mot trans) pl with 1 sedan, 2 GAZ-67 Bs, 20 ZIS-150s, 18 GAZ-51s incl 3 fuel tank trucks; ABC pl (12 men) for administration and maintenance of gas protection equipment; 30-piece military band.

Total strength of 34th Mecz Regt: 120 officers and 730 NCOs and EM. Regt consisted of cadre pers and equal number of soldiers in first and second year of training. In 1955 and 1956, each 200 reservists and untrained pers up to 45 years had been inducted for 3-month training with regt at summer camp Dranburg tag gr. Tag bn organized by regt in both years [redacted]

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(Comment: a. Info confirms Stolp as post 34th Mecz Regt. [redacted])

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- b. [redacted] (34th Mecz Regt) confirmed Stolp until Apr 1957. [redacted] (Hq 8th Mecz Div Koeslin) reported for the first time. Lt Col Makarewicz mentioned as C/O 32d Mecz Regt Stolp in Aug 1956. Probably 34th Mecz Regt concerned. 32d Mecz Regt carried in Kolberg. Lt Col Gross confirmed as C/O 8th Mecz Div Koeslin in Aug 1956.
- c. Organization of 34th Mecz Regt generally corresponds to Soviet org. 27th Mecz Regt (Glatz)/10th Mecz Div (Oppeln) and 55th Mecz Regt (Braunsberg)/16th Mecz Div (Elbing) also similar organization and about same strength as 34th Mecz Regt.
- d. Number of stored tanks too high for 34th Mecz Regt. Possible reserves also for other units of post or of 8th Mecz Div. Similar observations made also with other units f.e. with 9th Tank Regt (Stolp), where 30 tanks are stored [redacted] and [redacted] Braunsberg, where tank depot is located [redacted]

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The 11th Army AAA Regt, [redacted] stationed in Goerlitz in late Jun 1957. C/O Maj Kordas, Chief of Staff Maj Gransort. Prior to Mar 1957, regt subordinate to 4th Inf Div in Crossen/O, subsequently, in connection with reduction, subordinated to 11th Mecz Div (Sagan). Soldiers wore still red cap bands which were to be replaced by black ones. Regt consisted of 4 active and 1 reservist battery. A regt NCO school dissolved in Apr 1957, participants distributed among batteries. Few NCO aspirants transferred to Sig NCO School Sagan. In summer, individual soldiers discharged ahead of time for personal reasons, replaced by others from deactivated units.

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**Strength and armament:**

Unit	Personnel	Weapons
1 Btry	86 men	6 x 85-mm hv AA guns 1 x 14.5-mm twin-barreled mach gun
2 "	appr 80 "	6 x 37-mm 14 AA guns
3 "	" 80 "	4 x 37-mm " " "
4 "	" 80 "	4 x 37-mm " " "
Reserve Btry	" 150 "	2 x 85-mm " " "

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Total strength incl hq unit: at least 500 men with 151 trucks and an u/i number of reserve guns mostly of 37-mm. Barracks installation of regt Hermsdorferstrasse also occupied by railroad protection unit with 37-mm AA guns and 12.7-mm hv mach guns and a chemical unit.

Other known elms 11th Mecz Div: arty mort regt Sagan and u/i unit Sorau

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(Comment: Info confirms that, in line with the reduction of Polish forces, units deactivated. Indication that major reorganization under way, 111th AAA Regt confirmed until Apr 1957,  in Goerlitz until Sep 1957. Info on C/O and chief, location and neighboring units agree with available data. Organization differs from prev assumption (2 btrys with 85-mm, 2 btrys with 37-mm), but appears credible.

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Several reports available on reorganization in area Lower Silesia-Grenemark. In 4th MD, apparently particularly 4th and 5th Rifle Divs but also neighboring 11th and 19th Mecz Divs involved. The 111th AAA Regt (Goerlitz) so far separated from 4th Rifle Div Crossen by quartering area 11th Mecz Div (Sagan). Subordination under 11th Mecz Div not separate measure but probably connected with fusion of 2 to 3 divs. Report on discharge of individual soldiers ahead of time confirms that, so far, military service not generally reduced but individual solutions possible.)

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D. Air Force

I. USSR

1. Logistics

On 19 Nov 1957, concreting on the runway at Neuhardenberg airfield was completed [redacted]

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(Comment: NVA/L airfield; previously occupied by small detail of Rear Services. Concrete runway 2,000 meters long, 60 meters wide, about 22 cm thick.)

2. Command and Training of Troops

During night of 4/5 Novm dropping of photo flashbombs over Kammersdorf bomb range. IL-28s flying individually and at intervals of about 45 minutes approached from the southeast and headed southwest. Three aircraft dropped 2 photo flashbombs each at intervals of 3 seconds. Other aircraft dropped 1 photo flashbomb each. Weather: light cloud-cover, southwest wind. Individual observations from altitude 600-700 meters athwart of target. Bright noiseless flash at altitude about 600 meters. Bomb detonation on the ground with very small glare 7 seconds after flash and 250-300 meters behind flash in flight direction. At time of flash the aircraft was not aft of the flash as previously observed, but about 500 meters in front of the flash. A second plane was not observed over the target at the same time [redacted]

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(Comment: According to reliable information, Rcn Regt Welzow (IL-28s) practiced night bombing on 4 Nov [redacted] Reported observation is first indication of combined employment of flash-bomb and air camera by high flying aircraft which were not recognized.)

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II. GDR

1. Location of Troops

On 29 Oct, Dessau airfield was occupied by 4 IL-14s at eastern side and 6 helicopters in northeastern corner [redacted]

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(Comment: Aircraft strength of Dessau Air Transport School unchanged; still undetermined whether helicopters belong to school.)

1 Oct, planned change of training and transfer from Rothenburg airfield: Training flying with Yak-11s resumed and scheduled to last until late March 1958; MiG-15 flying allegedly in Bautzen-Litten beginning Oct 1957; Soviet detail remains in Rothenburg and will allegedly take over airfield for Soviet unit in spring 1958. Airfield released for NVA/L until 1 April 1958 [redacted]

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(Comment: Individual local flights with Yak-11s at Brandenburg-Briest airfield observed for the first time on 1 Nov 1957. For months, Brandenburg-Briest airfield has reportedly been occupied by 24 Yak-11s which will presumably transfer to Rothenburg. Arrival of jet fuel reported from Bautzen; arrival of aircraft not yet mentioned. Evacuation by NVA/L of Rothenburg airfield believed probable for various reasons.

2. Training

29 Oct 1957, very intensive air activity by MiG-17s at Drewitz airfield; flights in elements of two, aerobatics, cross-country and high-altitude flights. 1 Nov, formations of 2 MiG-17s attacked ground targets in low-level flight, local flights by MiG-15s [redacted]

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25 Oct, formations of up to 9 MiG-17s curved over Bautzen-Litten airfield and headed northeast.

(Comment: 3rd Ftr Div reached advanced training status; first information on attacks at ground targets in Drewitz by MiG-17s and crossing over turning points in Bautzen area.)

III. Poland

1. Location of Troops

Warsaw airfield administration at Nowowiejska Street, directly subordinated to Polish Air Force Hq, had been superior to following units until April 1957: 6 air force construction units incl 13th Airfield Constr Bn Elbing (54 10 N/19 23 E), 14th Airfield Constr Bn Lowicz (52 07 N/19 56 E), 16th Airfield Constr Bn Jarocin (51 58 N/17 31 E), 3 air force central workshops in Grudziadz (53 29 N/18 46 E), technical pilot service (TOL) at w/i location, 6th unit w/i. During winter 1956/57 7 units were dissolved incl Constr Unit Powidz (52 25 N/17 55 E), Constr Unit Gollnow (J.W. 1208, 53 34 N/14 49 E), Constr Unit Ostrov (51 39 N/17 49 E), former Constr Unit Jarocin and Constr Unit Stettin (53 25 N/14 35 E) [redacted]

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(Comment: Polish 16th Airfield Constr Bn (J.W. 2563 Jarocin) is a special unit for rapid airfield construction. Organization and strength: battalion staff 20 men, airfield construction company 160 men, heavy equipment company 80 men, motor vehicle company 80 men, supply platoon 24 men, repair platoon 20 men, signal team 8 men, technical team 8 men, total 400 men. Equipment: 3 sedans, 27 trucks, 32 dump trucks, 3 repairshop trucks, 1 truck with crane, 1 fuel truck, 8 water trucks, 2 engineer trucks, 1 ambulance, 2 trucks for airfield cleaning, 1 tar truck, 157 heavy construction machines, various engineer and signal equipment [redacted] Strength of airfield construction battalion fluctuates between 3 and 7 companies (400 to 1,200 men), previous average 4 company with 500 men.)

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IV. Czechoslovakia

1. Location of Troops

During May 1957, two 3-axle trucks, each mounting a rectangular radar screen about 8 x 2.5 meters, observed south of Zeradice (50 19 N/13 30 E), 300 to 400 south of Vetrusice (50 19 N/13 28 E) - Radizeves (50 18 N/13 31 E) road [redacted]

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(Comment: Presumably an AAA tactical control radar.)

Two tower-like structures on cement foundations, each tower mounting a circular radar screen of wire netting, shaped like a parabolic reflector with dipole in the middle, were observed northwest of Prague - Liberec (50 47 N/14 03 E) road, between Kbely (50 09 N/14 34 E) and Vinor (50 09 N/14 36 E). The radar screens did not rotate continuously [redacted]

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(Comment: Apparently a fire control predictor.)

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