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W e e k l y   S u m m a r y

No. 49/63

Covering the Week Ending on 3 December 1963

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I. Soviet Union

1. Troop Location (GSFG)

a) until 21 November

Schlieffen Kaserne (4786), Stahnsdorf - at 16.00 hrs on 5 November 1963, ten Soviet tanks were seen between Suedwest Kirchhof (churchyard) and Wilmersdorfer Friedhof (cemetery) in Stahnsdorf moving in the direction of the autobahn check-point. They are said to be still there (F - 3).

Comment. The 178th Guard Battalion is stationed in the Schlieffen Kaserne, Stahnsdorf. The presence of tanks with this guard battalion has repeatedly been observed.

b) Eighth Gds Army

until 12 November

Haupt Kaserne (8302), Meiningen - cleaning of a four-barreled AA gun mounted on a ZPU 4 carriage. Mtz rifle patrols along the fence on the street side. During daytime, they were armed with knives, at night with carabines and machine guns. A staff bus stopped in front of the quarters. Officers (including two captains) alighted from the bus (C - 3).

Comment. The 117th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt/ 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div is stationed at Haupt Kaserne or at the installation on Leipziger Strasse, Meiningen. The observations confirm the location of this mtz rifle regt.

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2. Training (GSFG)a) Training at Local Training Grounds and Driving Schools

- 19 November Michendorf - six trucks, each occupied by 30 soldiers and towing a small gun moving in an easterly direction on the Berlin - Helmstedt autobahn (F - 3).
- November Koenigswusterhausen/Castle - GAZ-69s and ZIL-151s carrying personnel equipped with field pack were frequently observed entering and leaving the installation (F - 3).
- November Grimma - several ZIL-151s with personnel equipped with field pack entering and leaving the installation (F - 3).
- November Doeberitz - T-54s entering and leaving the installation at irregular intervals (Several Fs - 3).
- November Bernau - individual ZIL-151s with personnel equipped with field pack repeatedly entering and leaving the installation (F - 3).
- November Stendal - groups of up to company strength were daily observed leaving in the direction of the firing range to conduct firing practices, occasionally also including aiming at balloons. Night exercises were repeatedly conducted (F - 3).
- 22 November Dessau - approximately 80 soldiers without weapons were observed in the eastern part of the sports ground, one officer and approximately 40 soldiers without weapons in the western part (C - 3).
- 22 November Leipzig - 20 soldiers engaged in repairing practice targets (B - 3).
- 29 November on Highway F-5, Bredow bifurcation - traffic regulators. Convoy of 1 GAZ-69 and 15 trucks, including 3 BM-24s and 1 M-13 coming from the direction of Bredow (C - 3).

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- 19 November Guestrow - driving schools from the Priemerwald camp were observed in the city (B - 3).
- 25 November Elstal airfield - 10-12 ZIL-151s engaged in driver training (C - 3).
- 27 November Elstal airfield - several driving school trucks (C - 3).

Comment. These observations made in several army areas are indicative of the recruit training usual for this time of year.

b) Command Post and Signal Exercise of the Third Shock Army

- 25 November on the Berlin - Helmstedt autobahn, near Burg bifurcation - 4 GAZ-69s with antennas, 2 radio cars, 4 canvas-covered ZIL-151s moving in a southerly direction (C - 3).
- 26 November Friesack, on Highway F-5 - 3 ZIL-150s towing field kitchens moving in a southerly direction.  
At Highway F-5/Highway F-107 bifurcation - Soviet Army traffic regulators.  
30 to 40 trucks, coming from a southerly direction on Highway F-107 and turning into Highway F-5 (F - 3).
- 28 November on the Berlin - Helmstedt autobahn, near Brandenburg exit - 2 GAZ-69As and 14-16 trucks occupied by approximately 30 soldiers, moving in a westerly direction (F - 3).
- 29 November on the autobahn, approximately 20 kms east of Magdeburg - 100 motor vehicles, including numerous staff and signal cars, moving in an easterly direction.  
Between Erxleben and Marienborn - 10 trucks moving in a westerly direction (C - 3).

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Comment. On 28 November, a command post and signal exercise was started by the Third Shock Army in the Letzlinger Heide - Brandenburg - Perleberg greater area with staffs and signal units of all four divisions participating. Inferring from the route taken by some of these convoys it appears quite possible that also staffs from the areas around Berlin participated in the exercise.

Summary Comment on Training (GSFG)

Training at local training grounds and driving schools continued in all army areas. They are characteristic of the present stage of recruit training.

A command post and signal exercise of the Third Shock Army with all four divisions and army units participating started on 28 November and was still continuing on 01 December.

For the period from 02 to 11 December, the Kreuzburg - Berka - Behringen - Ballstaedt - Allach - Ichtershausen area was declared restricted area (8/63). This very small restricted area is an extension of the large permanent restricted area comprising the Bad Salzungen - Arnstadt - Rudolstadt - Neustadt - Demarcation Line north of Hof area.

There have been no indications yet of exercise activity. It cannot be excluded that the above-mentioned restricted area serves the purpose of camouflaging special activities, such as building projects in areas near the Demarcation Line.

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II. Soviet Zone of Occupation of Germany1. NVA/Ground Forces - GeneralOfficer Selection Procedure

A teachers' collective at the Wismar (PE 6275) Polytechnical School, together with the FDJ (=Free German Youth) secretary, recommended to the "Wehrkreiskommando" ("military sub-district command) several 11th year students as NVA officer candidates. Following a selection check by a Wehrkreiskommando officers commission, the candidates slated for the motorized rifle branch were called in to the Frankenberg (US 6242) motorized rifle commanders candidate school No II for a qualifying exam (18 to 21 December 1962) which was conducted as follows:

1st day: Essay writing. Subject: "The Socialist Army vs. the Capitalist Army. A Comparison".

2nd day: Written exams in Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry and Russian.

3rd day: Sports exam; curriculum vitae writing.

90 out of 125 applicants were accepted as officer candidates. A further prerequisite for final candidate selection is their passing of the secondary school graduation exam (Abitur) (F - 3).

Comment. First report on the way in which officer schools conduct exams to test NVA career officer candidates. Of late, attempts have been made to enlist officer candidates from among secondary school students while they are still in their last (ninth) year before graduation. Candidates who have passed the qualifying test are not taken on as officer trainees until after they have passed their "Abitur" (secondary school graduation exam, usually taken at the age of 19).

2. Personnel Administrationa) The Swearing-in of RecruitsPress Excerpt:

On the 45th anniversary of the November Revolution, young soldiers of an Erfurt NVA unit were handed their weapons by outstanding "combatants" of the working class.

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The conscripts were lined up in front of "VEB Pressen- und Scherenbau" where they took their oath on the workers and peasants state (Soviet Zonal press).

Comment. This indicates that the swearing-in of at least part of the fall recruits took place in the very first week of their service.

Oath-administering ceremonies conducted in industrial plants with old-guard communists handing over of weapons to the recruits are meant to symbolize the concept of a People's Army.

The 45th anniversary mentioned is in commemoration of the 1918 November Revolution.

b) Admission of NCOs to Officer Careers.

Press Excerpt:

On 12 November 1963, a decoration was awarded to Sergeant W. whose platoon came out "best unit". Sergeant W. hopes to successfully defend the award during the new training year (1963/64); he intends to serve another ten years with the army as an officer (Soviet Zonal press).

Comment. Under § 25 C of the military career regulations, NCOs who wish to be promoted to an officer rank have to pass a qualifying course conducted at an officer school.

The above press report implies, however, that platoon leader Sergeant W. will be commissioned without having passed a special training course.

3. Situation in the Berlin Area and on the Demarcation Line

a) Berlin Area

(1) From 25 November to 1 December 1963, there was virtually no change in the extent of supervisory measures.

In the "border area", almost all of the border brigade personnel were working to complete the lighting network; they were also doing planing and demolition work.

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Other activities included the digging of motor vehicle traps and the building of several new observation posts. In some places, NVA/Border Troops fatigue details also set up additional stretches of barbed wire and mesh wire fences (Several Fs - 3).

Comment. Situation unchanged. The fortification of the "border area" is being pressed ahead with determination.

- (2) The 1st Border Brigade - serving the East sector of Berlin - has replaced four battalion commanders and deactivated five companies for reasons of unreliability. The officers, NCOs and EM of the deactivated companies were distributed among other companies or transferred to rear areas. The rest of the border companies, too, have undergone a personnel reshuffle during the past weeks under new security regulations (dpa) (See Part G of this Weekly).

The Wulfersdorfer Tagbau area (east of Bueddenstedt, PC 3882) (See Weekly No 48/63, C, II, 1, b), having been cleared of mines, the double fence in this section has now been shifted several meters to the west.

On 29 November, nets, 60 cm high, fastened to the ground with iron hooks, were set up behind the double fence section near Bad Colberg (PA 2871).

- Otherwise, NVA/Border Troops fatigue details were again further extending and improving the "border communication network" and doing maintenance and repair work. In some places, earth bunkers and observation posts were built in addition (Several Fs - 3).

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Comment. The situation was the same as during the preceding week. The shifting of the double fence in the Wulfersdorfer Tagbau was necessary as an earth slide had buried part of the original fence. The nets are to keep deer out of the mine belt.

On 25 and 27 November, one large group of border soldiers each - approximately 60 men and approximately 200 men, respectively - were observed in the areas of the 1st and the 4th Border Brigade. The soldiers were being briefed on border service (Several Fs - 3).

On 30 November, from 0825 to 0835 hrs, about 25 NVA/border soldiers with heavy marching outfit, led by four officers, visited the barricades between Brandenburger Tor and Reichstagerfer. An NVA/Border Troops sentry remarked that these soldiers were briefed and that they belonged to the new unit which was to replace the 1st Border Brigade (F - 3).

On 30 November, from 0930 to 1040 hrs, several NVA/Border Troops officers briefed about 60 NVA/border soldiers on the border situation around Potsdamer Platz (F - 3).

Comment. It would appear that in late November/early December a major personnel reshuffle took place in the 1st Border Brigade, possibly also in the two other border brigades.

b) Demarcation Line

During the period under review (25 November to 1 December 1963), no change occurred in the observation and patrol duty. No special measures were taken following the assassination of US President Kennedy.

4. Combat Effectiveness of the NVA/Ground Forces

'Older' Age Classes Called up for Basic Military Service

(a) Question: "How is it that some of the older age classes were included in the call-ups this time?"

Answer by Admiral Verners:

"§ 22 of the law on compulsory military service stipulates that conscripts are liable to be called up for basic military service up to the 31st of December

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of the year in which they complete their 26th year. Some special functions in our NVA call for very high technical skill, well-founded knowledge and highly practical mind. It is extremely good and helpful if, in the military collectives, there are some older soldiers among the conscripts (Soviet Zonal radio 19 November, 1910 hrs).

(b) Press Excerpt:

"Things did not always click during the first few days. It was quite an eye-opener", 25 year old submachine gunner F. said (Soviet Zonal press).

(c) Press Excerpt:

Their first few days in the forces lie behind them. Together with the older conscripts, and united in consolidated combat collectives, they will spare no effort to fulfil their mission (Soviet Zonal press).

(d) Press Excerpt:

My radio squad leader, my junior by some years, is an experienced expert in his field. I shall take an example by him (Soviet Zonal press).

Comment. Available information indicates that the personnel called up this fall for the 18 month basic military service included more conscripts of the older age classes (1937, 1938) than had been the case before. It is presumed that the calling up of older age-class conscripts was made not only to satisfy the demand for specialists, but also to compensate for age classes with a low birth rate.

5. Order of Battle in the NVA/Ground Forcesa) The Artillery Regiments of the Motorized Rifle Divisions

- a) The 4th Bn, 1st Arty Regt/1st Mtz Rifle Div, was deactivated in the fall of 1961. Since the winter of 1961, a great number of 85-mm field guns has been parked in a shed. In November 1962, the 1st Arty Regt had three battalions equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers each (Des - 3).

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- b) In May 1962, the 11th Arty Regt, 11th Mtz Rifle Div, was organized as follows:  
 1st Bn (equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers),  
 2nd Bn (equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers),  
 3rd Bn (equipped with 18 x 85-mm field guns) (Des - 3).
- c) In May 1963, the 11th Arty Regt had three battalions with three batteries each, equipped with 122-mm field howitzers. No information about a battalion equipped with 85-mm field guns (Des - 3).
- d) In November 1962, the 1st and 2nd Bns of the 11th Arty Regt were equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers each; the 3rd Bn had 18 x 85-mm field guns (Des - 3).
- e) The 2nd Bn of the 12th Arty Regt, 4th Mtz Rifle Div, was deactivated in September 1961. It has been planned to activate a rocket battery in each artillery regiment.  
 Organization in May 1962: 1st and 2nd Bns equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers each, 3rd Bn equipped with 18 x 85-mm field guns (Des - 3).
- f) In September 1962, the 12th Arty Regt was organized as follows:  
 1st Bn (equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers),  
 2nd Bn (equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers),  
 3rd Bn (equipped with 18 x 85-mm field guns) (Des - 3).
- g) In September 1962, the 16th Arty Regt, 8th Mtz Rifle Div, had three battalions equipped with 18 x 122-mm field howitzers each (Des - 3).
- h) In November 1962, the 16th Arty Regt had three battalions equipped with 122-mm field howitzers and 85-mm field guns (Des - 3).

Comment. The reports on the artillery regiments of all four motorized rifle divisions admit of the conclusion that reorganization measures were taken in these regiments in 1961/62; evidently one of the four battalions was deactivated.

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Of the remaining three battalions, at least two are equipped with 122-mm field howitzers; one may have 85-mm field guns. The activation of rocket launcher (BM-24) units started in early 1963. It is considered likely that each motorized rifle division will activate one rocket launcher battalion.

b) Polit Officers

In November 1963, all companies of the 7th Mtz Rifle Regt Marienberg (US 7013), 7th Tk Div, were without polit officers. The only remaining polit officers are attached to regimental headquarters and battalion headquarters (Des - 2).

Comment. Confirmation that in the independent companies, too, the post of polit officer has been deleted from the TO&Es (See Weekly No 38/63, C, III, 5).

6. Training of the NVA/Ground Forcesa) Conclusion of the 1962/63 Training Year (Press Excerpt)

On 12 November 1963, 130 EM, NCOs and officers - representing ten thousands of "best men" (= best achievement award winners) selected from among the entire NVA personnel - were guests of the Minister for National Defense. In an address the minister pointed to the great achievements attained within the framework of socialist competition and the 'best men' movement, achievements which had contributed substantially to the improvement of the NVA's combat readiness.

In recognition of their outstanding achievement and exemplary conduct in the 1962/63 training year, the group of NVA representatives were decorated and promoted to the next higher rank (Soviet Zonal press).

Comment. The decoration by the Minister of National Defense of the 'best men' and/or unit is a regular practice performed upon the "evaluation" which marks the end of a current training year.

b) Regular Training

(1) On 15 November 1963, three groups of 10 soldiers each were observed in training - presumably doing firing practice - on the training area near Ulanen Kaserne in Leipzig (C - 3).

Comment. Recruit training.

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- (2) On 25 November 1963, 6 BTR-152s, each carrying 12 to 15 NVA soldiers in winter uniforms and steel helmets, were observed three kms east of Nauen (UU 5731). Their BTRs carried no vehicle registration numbers (C - 3).

Comment. Marching exercise of a motorized rifle company, possibly a recruit training company. When engaged in exercises, NVA vehicles frequently appear without vehicle registration numbers to impede identification.

c) The 1963/64 Training Year

The 1963/64 training year will start on 2 December 1963.

The first half-year period (winter) will last till 30 May 1964, the second (summer) till 30 November 1964 (Des - 3).

Comment. Confirms suppositions; the 1962/63 training year, too, began in early December 62 and was subdivided into a first and second half-year period. From other information it would appear that the measures taken to prepare NCOs for the new training year now include a joint training course of about eight days, conducted within the respective unit (regiment, independent battalion).

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7. Border and Security Troops

NVA/Border Troops

a) Fall Call-ups

(1) Since 2 November, conscripts have been in training near Erkner to become 'border soldiers for service at the Wall' (F - 3).

(2) Glowe was one of the places to which call-ups were made on 1 November 1963 (B - 3).

(3) Press Excerpt:

In the Wolff unit, as everywhere in the NVA, the young conscripts have for some days (early November 1963) been engaged in learning the rudiments of military services, such as right and left turns, on the drill ground (Soviet Zonal press).

Comment. The conscript induction dates for the NVA border troops and for the NVA ground forces were apparently identical (1/2 November 1963). Training units of the border troops are stationed in Glowe/Ruegen and Rahnsdorf/Wilhelmshagen (near Erkner).

The Wolff troop unit is presumably identical with a border training regiment in the Berlin area. Wolff was last mentioned as the commander of the 1st Border Regt Blankenfelde in April 1963, prior to the reorganization of the Berlin Border Brig.

b) Swearing-in Ceremonies

Press Excerpt:

Conscripts of the Nordhausen Border Regt were sworn in on 13 November 1963. They will serve at the "State border" after completion of their basic training (Soviet Zone press).

Comment. In accordance with DV-10/3, Annex II, soldiers have to be sworn in two weeks after their induction at the latest.

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8. SED Combat Groups (Home Defense)

a) Training

(1) An alert exercise was held in Guestrow (UV 1464) on 19 November under the direction of the Volkspolizeikreisamt (People's Police Kreis Office).

Beginning of the exercise: at 2145 hrs

Participating units: German People's Police,  
Kreis Guestrow,  
transport Police,  
combat groups of Kreis  
Guestrow,  
fire brigade of Kreis  
Guestrow,

at about 2200 hrs

additional combat groups  
of Kreis Buetzow  
mixed with transport police  
and fire brigade arrived on  
trucks

Dress:

with field pack, steel helmet  
and protective masks.

Course of the Exercise:

Small arms were issued by  
the DVP after assembly of  
the combat groups.  
Subsequently, all approaches  
to Guestrow as well as all  
bridges and people's-owned  
plants in town were occupied.

End of the Exercise:

at 1130 hrs on 22 November 63,  
following a siren signal  
(B - 3).

Comment. The exercise points up a typical employment situation for combat groups in cooperation with the DVP, the transport police and the fire brigade. It is interesting to note that the exercise was extended over an unusually long period of time and was not held over a weekend as is customary.

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(2) On 16 November 1963, an exercise was conducted in the Prenzlau area by combat groups from the Templin area (B - 3).

Comment. It is assumed that this was an exercise similar to the one conducted in Guestrow on 19 November 1963.

b). New Activation

Before the end of 1963, a General Plant Protection 'Hundertschaft' is to be activated in Iwl-Ludwigsfelde; in addition to the existing motorized rifle battalion (B - 3).

Comment. The 1st Combat Group Bn of the district reserve is carried in Iwl-Ludwigsfelde.

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## I. Soviet Union

### Location

#### Air Transport Regiment Oranienburg

In mid-November 1963, the following aircraft were observed at Oranienburg airfield:

- 40-50 large twin-engine aircraft including some with red numbers between 1 and 20 parked in the northeastern section of the field and others with red numbers between 65 and 80 in the southern section;
- 10-15 HARE (MI-1) and HOUND (MI-4) helicopters,
- 8-10 single-engine monoplanes.

The following observations were made south of Wilhelminenhof:

- house and assembly tent with
- 20-30 trucks and sedans nearby,
- about 5 helicopters all with white stripes. (B-3)

- Comment.
1. The "large twin-engine aircraft" are CAMP (AN-8) type. Air Transport Regiment Oranienburg is equipped with 30 CAMP aircraft (2 squadrons). If the reported number of about 45 CAMP aircraft is confirmed, it can be assumed that the regiment has been fully equipped with CAMP, each of the three squadrons with 15 CAMP. Previously, the aircraft numbers were painted yellow. Provided that no error in observation was made, it appears possible that, after completed re-equipment, the color was changed from yellow to red; this requires confirmation.
  2. The so-called Wilhelminenhof area includes the airfield. The observed tents, trucks and helicopters with white stripes might indicate training activity by an u/i helicopter unit.

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II. Soviet Zone of Occupation of Germany (Soviet Zone)

1. Location

Dessau Airfield

In early Nov 1963, Dessau airfield was vacated. No aircraft were observed and the quarters were not occupied. The transfer to Dresden-Klotzsche airfield was apparently completed. There was only a guard detail at the airfield. (C-2)

Comment. (See Weekly Report No. 45/63, Part D, paragraph II/2 b.)  
The 17th Air Trans Wing and the assigned 17th Air Tech Bn transferred to Dresden-Klotzsche airfield on 4 Nov 1963.

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2. Logistics

Supply Depot at Weisswasser

An NVA Air Force/Air Defense supply depot, which had been established approximately one year earlier, was observed in the former Hirsch/Jahn glassworks at Weisswasser, Muskauer road. Tires, spare parts, and fuel for motor vehicles were stored there.

Time of observation: Oct/Nov 1963. (D-2)

Comment. The area supplied by the depot remains to be clarified. It is, however, known for example, that the first section of the 17th AA Rocket Regt (Altwarz) receives motor vehicle spare parts from there.

3. Supply Facilities

a. NVA Air Force/Air Defense Radar Site South of Kreuzebra

Plane table sheet 4627 UTM 32U NB 877 881

On Angerberg (mountain) (NB 877 881), approximately 300 m south of Kreuzebra town center, there is a radar station with 2 radar sets, presumably KNIFE REST. The operating personnel, consisting of approximately 2 officers and 40 NCOs/EM are billeted in 2 to 3 brick buildings (each about 20 x 8 x 5 m), just north of the site. A new 4-5-m-wide concrete road, built in 1962, branches off from Kefferhausen road just south of Kreuzebra and leads westward to the radar site. Time of observation: 1961 - October 1963. (F-3)

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Comment. According to other reports, the construction work south of Kreuzebra served for the establishment of an airfield. According to new information, however, the installation is considered a radar site but confirmation is still required. It is not impossible that also a landing field has been built south of the radar site.

- b. Ammunition Depot East of Bautzen Airfield  
Plane table sheet 4753/4853

The ammunition depot at VS 699 723 is located on Schanzberg (mountain), approximately 1.5 km east of the airfield and 300 m southwest of Belgern.

Mainly "aircraft ammunition" is stored in the area, which is approximately 300 x 300 m large, covered by brushwood, surrounded with a double fence, and permanently guarded by NVA Air Force sentries.

Time of observation: 1961 - October 1963. (F-3)

Comment. It is very probable that the ammunition depot belongs to Bautzen-Litten airfield, which is occupied by the 2nd Flying Training Wing.

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4. Civilian Air Transport

Soviet Zone Airline "Interflug"

The Soviet Zone airline "Interflug" has resumed sightseeing flights from Berlin-Schoenefeld airport.

Persons who want to participate in such flights must book with the travel agencies or Interflug agencies upon submission of their identification cards three weeks before the alleged flying date.

(B-3)

Time of observation: early Nov 1963.

Comment. The submission of the **identification cards** presumably is required for checking the applicants.

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II. Soviet Zone of Occupation of GermanyNVA/Navy1. Training Activity

The moderate cruising and training activity was without any special features.

The following units were on patrol duty in the Fehmarn-Belt:

25 to 291500 A November	KRAKE-Class minelaying and minesweeping vessel, Pt.No,226,
291500 to 300800 A November	KRAKE-Class minelaying and minesweeping vessel, Pt.No.224,
300800 A November to 01 December	KRAKE-Class minelaying and minesweeping vessel, Pt. No. 226. (B-2)

2. Observations at Sea

HAI-Class subchaser, Pt.No.V-81, was observed at the following positions:

261030 A November at 5424 N 1357 E

261130 A November at 5430 N 1345 E. (C-3)

Comment. The vessel belongs to the HAI-II-Class; the pendant number is known.

3. Ship Movements Outside Territorial Waters

According to a Soviet Zone press announcement three minelaying and minesweeping vessels, named POTSDAM, ROSTOCK, and BERLIN, were engaged in a training trip in the northern Baltic from 2 to 9 September 1963.

The formation visited the Reval and Riga ports. (press)

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G. Psychological Situation

(English version submitted in summary form only)

Soviet BlocEncroachments of Soviet Soldiers on the Soviet Zone Population

For some weeks (October/November 1963), part of the population of the Soviet Zone of Occupation of Germany has been strongly alarmed at the increasing encroachments on them by Soviet soldiers.

Soviet Zone of Occupation of Germany (Soviet Zone)

Relations between border soldiers and the Soviet Zone population living in the so-called "border security zone" around West Berlin has considerably deteriorated since June 1963. The soldiers are very depressed at the little contact they have with the population living in this area.

Deactivation of Units For Reasons of Unreliability

In the 1st Border Brig Berlin, four section commanders are said to have been dismissed and five border companies deactivated. A reorganization along the lines of new security regulations was allegedly carried out in the remaining units. Previously, the SED and NVA had been dissatisfied with the reliability of the border troops in Berlin because soldiers and civilians continued to escape successfully to West Berlin despite all special measures taken and despite the setting up of a "border security zone". It is interesting to note that by 18 October 1963, the same number of soldiers had escaped to West Berlin as during the same period in 1962. Since 18 October 1963, no soldier has crossed over to West Berlin.

Psychological Situation in the Armed ForcesDiscontent Among Discharged Conscripts

The first Soviet Zone conscripts, released in the fall of 1963, are discontented because they cannot return to their old jobs and are not assigned new jobs where they can make the same amount of money.

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in an easterly direction. (F - 3)

29 November coming from Reesdorf, moving south and turning into the Hof - Berlin autobahn - 35 ZIL-157s, 10 GAZ-51s, 1 GAZ-69, mainly radio and staff cars .

Crossing the autobahn near Raaben - 15 ZIL-150s moving in a northwesterly direction. (C - 3)

2 December at Highway F-5/Highway F-107 intersection - traffic regulators.

On Highway F-107, coming from a southerly direction - 25 to 30 motor vehicles, mainly radio cars, moving in the direction of Pritzwalk. (F - 3)

Comment. These observations are in connection with the command post and signal exercise of the Third Shock Army in the Letzlinger Heide - Brandenburg - Perleberg area which was terminated on 3 December 1963 (see Weekly No. 49/63, C, I, 2. b).

c) Eighth Gds Army

26 November on the Mellingen - Hermsdorfer Kreuz autobahn - 14 BTR-152s occupied by soldiers and covered with dirt, moving in a westerly direction. In the wooded area northwest of Hermsdorfer Kreuz - explosions and muzzle flashes as well as white and red signal flares. (F - 3)

28 November on the Hof - Berlin autobahn near Weikelsdorf - three trucks carrying power sets moved in a southerly direction. (F - 3)

30 November 15 artillery discharges were heard in the Schoengeila (PB 9244) area. (F - 3)

Comment. Exercise and training activity of elms/57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div/Eighth Gds Army. The activity did not exceed regimental level and was confined to local training grounds.

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a) Training at Local Training Grounds and Driving Schools

- 12 November Halle - 50 soldiers practiced with five tanks at the tank training grounds. (C - 3)
- 16 November Potsdam - one company of Soviet soldiers were observed marching in the training area. (F - 3)
- 22 November seven driving school trucks coming from Magdeburg moved in the direction of Gommern. 12 driving school trucks coming from Burg moved in the direction of Magdeburg. Several driving school convoys were observed in and near Magdeburg. (several F - 3)
- 26 November Halle - two companies of Soviet soldiers were observed conducting drill training, including firing practice and field training. (C - 3)
- 29 November Elstal - two march columns coming from the driving school area and moving in the direction of Highway F-5. (F - 3)

Comment. These observations are characteristic of the recruit training usual at this time of year.

b) Command Post and Signal Exercise of the Third Shock Army

- 29 November a tactical symbol - a yellow triangle - was seen on a tree near Kummer (PE 6012). (F - 3)
- 29 November on Highway F-5 near Heinrichsfelde - 11 GAZ-69As, 3 GAZ-69s, 2 GAZ-51s, 2 ZIS-150s moving

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Summary Comment on Training (GSFG)

Training at local training grounds and driving schools in all army areas continued to be characteristic of the present stage of the recruit training.

The command post and signal exercise of the Third Shock Army (started on 28 November) in the Letzlinger Heide - Brandenburg - Perleberg area was terminated on 3 December.

Exercises which did not exceed regimental level were conducted from 26 to 30 November by elms/57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div/Eighth Gds Army.

Since 3 December, elms/19th Mtz Rifle Div/Twentieth Gds Army have been conducting joint exercises presumably with the 3rd Engr Regt/Twentieth Gds Army in the Altengrabow ä Elster Gallin area.

Exercises and training conducted at regimental and reinforced regimental level are quite usual at this time of year.

No exercises have so far been observed in Restricted Area 8/63.

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II. Soviet Zone of Germany (Soviet Zone)1. Personnel AdministrationThe Swearing-in of RecruitsPress Excerpt:

The AA and motorized rifle units of the Rostock garrisons were lined up on the parade ground when the new conscripts were sworn in on 9 December.

(Soviet Zonal  
Press)

Comment. Confirms the supposed date.

The units concerned are the 28th Mtz Rifle Regt and the 8th AA Bn/8th Mtz Rifle Div.

2. Situation in the Berlin Area and on the D-Linea) Berlin Area

From 2 to 8 December 1963, there was generally no change in the extent of supervisory measures. No more observations were made of border briefings for border soldiers not familiar with the area (see Weekly No. 49/63, C, II, 3. a).

Along the D-Line around West Berlin, members of the border brigades stepped up demolition work on apartment houses and again carried out a number of compulsory evacuations to improve the field of fire as well as observation possibilities. On 4 December, a working gang of 11 women was employed opposite the West Berlin administrative district of Steglitz to grade the sentinel path running along the far edge of the first control strip ('death strip'). (several F - 3)

Comment. The border briefings, which, in connection with pertinent news agency and press reports, suggested that an extensive personnel reshuffle was going on in the 1st Border Brigade were evidently confined to the period from 25 November to 30 November 1963. During this period, groups of 20 to 30 men undergoing border briefing were observed in 11 places along the East Berlin sector boundary alone. These observations are indicative of a large-scale personnel reshuffle.

Work for the further extension and improvement of the 'border area' continued according to schedule.

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Again, the 500 m-border area along the West Berlin D-Line was the main scene of compulsory evacuations and demolition work.

The employment of women had not previously been noticed in the Berlin area.

b) D-Line

The extent of observation and patrol duty during the period under review (2 to 8 December) was generally the same as before.

NVA/Border Troops work details were largely concentrated on extending and improving the 'border communication network' and on maintaining the barriers and security installations. They also built some more earth bunkers and observation towers and set up small wire entanglements. The tree-felling and clearing work performed was on a relatively small scale.

In the Elbe River section, a small civilian group surveyed the area. (several F - 3)

Comment. Situation essentially unchanged. The survey work observed along the Elbe River would suggest that the extension of the barricades in this section has not yet been concluded, or else, that modifications have become necessary.

3. Location of the NVA/Ground Forces

a) The 1st Bn/2nd Mtz Rifle Regt at Stahnsdorf (UU 7906)

(1) On 9 November 1963, the 1st Bn of the 2nd Mtz Rifle Regt/First Mtz Rifle Div will be moved from Ruinenberg Kaserne (No. 2286) at Potsdam to regimental headquarters at Stahnsdorf. (B - 3)

(2) On 11 November 1963, an advance element of a tank unit took over Ludendorff Kaserne (No. 4783) at Stahnsdorf. (D - 3)

Comment. It may be assumed that in the course of the transfer of the NVA/Ground Forces officer schools to the Loebau - Zittau area the Stahnsdorf (installation No. 4783) automotive engineering school for officers has transferred, too.

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The vacated quarters have presumably been occupied by the tank battalion of the 2nd Mtz Rifle Regt so that the 1st Mtz Rifle Bn could re-transfer to Stahnsdorf (installation No. 4781).

b) 7th Ren Co/7th Tk Div at Dresden

In October 1963, the 7th Ren Co Frankenberg was moved to Dresden. (Des - 3)

Comment. No information to date as to which barracks in Dresden the 7th Ren Co occupies now.

c) Division Headquarters of the 7th Tk Div

In the course of October 1963, division headquarters of the 7th Tk Div moved from the Kaserne in Koenigsbruecker StraÙe (1323) to that in Dr. Kurt-Fischer-Allee (1321). (Des - 3)

Comment. The Dr. Kurt-Fischer-Allee quarters (installation No. 1321) became available when they were vacated by its former occupant, the artillery officer school, in the course of the general transfer of officer schools.

d) 16th Tk Regt at Grossenhain (US 9882)

(1) In October 1963, the 16th Tk Regt was transferred from Loebau (VS 7661) to Grossenhain. (D&S - 3)

(2) At about the end of October 1963, the Kaserne at Grossenhain was occupied by an NVA tank unit after withdrawal of the NVA tank school. (F - 3)

Comment. Confirmation of the transfer of the 16th Tk Regt from Loebau to Grossenhain into the former quarters of the tank officer school (see Weekly No. 44/63, C, II, 4. a (2)).

e) 7th Arty Regt at Frankenberg (US 6242)

In October 1963, the 7th Arty Regt/7th Tk Div was transferred from Zittau (VS 8638) to Frankenberg. (Des - 3)

Comment. Further reference to the transfer of the 7th Arty Regt from Zittau to Frankenberg into the barracks vacated by the (transferred) 2nd officer school for Mtz Rifle commanders (see Weekly No. 38/63, C, III, 4. b (a + b)).

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f) Transfer of the Officer Schools(1) Tank Officer School

On 24 October 1963, the tank officer school was transferred from Grossenhain (US 9882) to Loebau (VS 7661) (see Weekly No. 37/63, C, III, 4. a). (F - 3)

(2) Engineer Officer School

- a) The engineer officer school was transferred from Dessau (UT 1146) to Zittau (US 8638) (see Weekly No. 38/63, C, III, 4. a and 48/63, C, II, 2.).
- b) The quarters of the engineer school at Dessau were vacated. (C - 3)

(3) 2nd Officer School for Mtz Rifle Commanders

- a) In October 1963, the officer school then at Frankenberg (US 6242) was transferred to Loebau. (Des - 3)
- b) From early to mid November 1963, the officer school at Frankenberg was transferred to a u/i garrison. (F - 3)

(4) Automotive Engineering School for Officers (Kfz. Techn. Offiziersschule)

The school stationed in Ludendorff Kaserne at Stahnsdorf (UU 7906) will be dissolved. (D - 3)

(5) Officer School for Rear Services

- a) The former quarters of the 16th Tk Regt at Loebau are occupied by an officer school which had previously been stationed at Erfurt. (F - 3)
- b) The NVA school on the Petersberg at Erfurt is to be dissolved. No information has been received to date on the further utilization of the buildings. (B/F - 3)

(6) Signal Officer School

In October 1963, the signal officer school vacated DoebeIn (US 6865); several teachers of the school also left DoebeIn together with their families. (F - 3)

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(7) Artillery Officer School

In October 1963, the artillery officer school will be transferred from Dresden to Zittau. (Des - 3)

(8) Central Officer Schools of the NVA at Loebau and Plauen (TR 9797)Press excerpt:

On 2 December 1963, two new central officer schools of the NVA were inaugurated at Plauen and Loebau.

The Minister for National Defense, Army General Hoffmann, was present at the Loebau ceremony. The Combined Command of the Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact States was represented by General Kurassov. Commander of the school is Colonel Gotthilf. (adn, dpa)

Comment. As has been repeatedly reported, the officer schools of the NVA were reorganized in the fall of 1963. Under the new organization, the schools for individual branches of service have been replaced by Central Schools for each service plus a central school for the NVA/Border Troops.

The schools referred to are

- the Central School for the NVA/Ground Forces, at Loebau,
- the Central School for the NVA/Border Troops, at Plauen (see Weekly No. 50/63, C, II, 6. a (2) (a)).

While the Central School of the NVA/Border Troops serves Plauen garrison only, some further garrisons, among them Zittau, belong to the NVA/Ground Forces 'school combine'. The reason for this reorganization is the effort to centralize and rationalize the school system and the teaching staff.

4. Training of the NVA/Ground Forcesa) Regular Training

- (1) On 15 November, much drill training was going on in the barracks yard of the former Flak-Kaserne at Gotha (installation No. 8182). (B - 3)

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Comment. Recruit training of the 4th Tk Regt quartered in these barracks.

- (2) On 21 November, an NVA convoy of 5 BTR-152s was observed on national Highway No. 100 moving from Halle in the direction of the autobahn. (B - 3)

Comment. Marching exercise of a motorized rifle company, possibly a recruit training unit.

- (3) On 21 November, an NVA unit with field pack was observed in the northern quarter of Leipzig. (C - 3)

Comment. Marching exercise as part of the recruit training program.

General Comment on Training

The four-week recruit training (basic training) period, which came to a close at the end of November, ran on schedule without any special occurrences. The program included the familiarization of recruits with the rules and discipline of military life, of drill exercises, weapons handling instructions, firing, alert and marching exercises. The transition to individual training set in in early December when the recruits were integrated into the regular training programs of their units. This new phase covers initiation of the recruits to the special functions which they are to perform once incorporated into their cadre units, while, at the same time, the older soldiers receive training towards the more difficult functions which they have been taking on after the discharge of the soldiers who recently completed their term of service.

Composition of a typical 1 NCO/6 EM gun crew:

K 1	gun pointer,	3rd half-year term)	inter-
K 2	gun loader,	3rd half-year term)	change-
			able
K 3	ammunition cannoneer	2nd half-year term	
K 4	" "	" " " "	
K 5	" "	1st " " "	
K 6	" "	1st " " "	

(K= Kanonier; cannoneer)

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b) Signal Training

Since mid-October, there have been NVA radio posts within a radius of 3 to 5 km around Wensickendorf (UU 9047). On 26 November, 5 H-6 radio vehicles were seen complete with trailers and generators. The radio vehicles had antennas with 3 to 4 braces extended.

(B 3)

Comment. The area concerned is inside the Oranienburg garrison training grounds. The radio vehicles have been stationed in the training area over an exceptionally long period. They may constitute a permanent training installation of either the 1st Mtz Rifle Regt or the 1st Arty Regt (both stationed at Oranienburg) for signal personnel training under simulated combat conditions.

The designation 'Type H-6' may be a mistake; the vehicles may be ZIS-150s. A modified version of this type is in use in the NVA/Ground Forces as a radio vehicle.

c) Rifle Practice

Press Excerpt:

Five comrades of the Ungrad company have been decorated with the riflers' cord ('Schuetzenschnur'). From the very first day of individual training their definite objective was to qualify for the riflers' cord. They have worked hard toward their award. New regulations were issued for the 1963/64 training year concerning the riflers' cord.

(Soviet Zonal press)

Comment. Special attention is attributed to rifle training in the training programs of all NVA branches.

For new riflers' cord award regulations, see Annex 1 (in German).

5. Personnel Data

The post of commander of the NVA/Ground Forces Officer School at Loebau is held by Col Gotthilf (Soviet Zonal radio).

Comment. Prior to this assignment, Col Leopold Gotthilf was commander of the 1st Mtz Rifle Div at Potsdam.

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His career:

1940-45 Soldier of the former German 'Wehrmacht'; his last rank was that of sergeant.

in 1945 taken prisoner of war by the Soviets;

1949-50 Saratow military academy;

1950-54 lieutenant colonel; head of the People's Police infantry school at Erfurt;

1954-56 one of the deputy heads of the KVP (Kasernierte Volkspolizei = Caserned People's Police) military academy at Dresden;

1957-59 training course at the Voroshilov military academy at Moscow;

Jan 1960 promoted to the rank of colonel and appointed commander of the 1st Mtz Rifle Div at Potsdam.

At the Berlin May-Day parades in 1962 and 1963, Gotthilf commanded the motorized rifle units.

His personal background:

Born 19. 6. 1918; married; 1 son, born 1951; elementary school education; good command of the Russian language; SED member.

General impression:

Enthusiastic soldier. Is considered a capable military expert.

6. Border and Security Troopsa) NVA/Border Troops(1) Training

A group leader of the 2nd platoon (NCO) was detached to the Eggesin area for 2 months of flying and parachuting training, supposedly toward an assignment in the border security or reconnaissance troops. (Des - 3)

Comment. There is no previous information at hand on training assignments of this kind for members of the NVA/Ground Forces.

(2) Location(a) Central School of the NVA/Border TroopsPress Excerpt:

On 2 December 1963, the 'Central School of the NVA/

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Border Troops' was inaugurated in Plauen.

The commander of this school is Major General Gartmann. Among the guests at the opening ceremony were: Major General Peter, Chief of the NVA/Ground Forces, and the Berlin City Commandant, Major General Poppe.

(adn, dpa)

Comment. Presumably the school is a combine composed of several schools or training establishments of the Border Troops (e.g. Plauen, Gloewen, Loecknitz), the purpose of school pooling being coordination of the school system.

In future, this new school will also cover the training of NVA/Border Troops officers which until recently was conducted in the NVA/Ground Forces officer schools.

Major General Gartmann previously was commander of the 2nd officer school for Mtz Rifle commanders at Frankenberg. Further data:

1950	State Security Service Chief at Brandenburg;
1953-55	Major General, Chief of the Border Police;
1955	Deputy Undersecretary of State for State Security;
from 1. Nov 56	Chief of the newly established Main Administration of Interior Security (HVIS = Hauptverwaltung für Staatssicherheit) in the Ministry of Internal Security. In late 1956/early 1957, HVIS was placed under the control of the Ministry of the Interior (Mdi).
from March 1957	after dissolution of the HVIS: military advisor of the Mdi
Feb 1959	military attaché to Moscow
Mar 1960	called back
early 61	commander of the Frankenberg officer school, which in May 1962 was renamed '2nd Officer School for Mtz Rifle Commanders.'

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Personal background:

Born at Waldheim on 24 December 1906,  
married, zoo attendant;  
1930 - 1933: imprisoned for 2 years as a  
Communist functionary;  
International Brigade in Spain;  
1939 in the Dachau concentration camp;  
Member of the KPD (Kommunistische Partei  
Deutschlands = Communist Party of Germany)  
/SED (Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutsch-  
lands = Socialist Unity Party of Germany);

General impression

Intelligent facial expression, speaks with  
composure and emphasis, very self-confi-  
dent. Efficient officer, highly respected  
by the officer candidates.

(b) Central Medical School

- (1) In 1961, the Ministry of the Interior opened  
a Training Center in the former Wiligrad pal-  
lace, a hunting retreat near Schwerin. In this  
school, officers and EM of the alert police and  
the border police were trained to become medi-  
cal assistants (18 months), male nurses (12  
months), or hospital orderlies (4 months).  
In July 1962, of the trainees attending 50 were  
medical assistants, 40 male nurses and 30 hospi-  
tal orderlies.

The commander of the school was Medizinalrat  
(public health officer) and Col in the Medical  
Service Dr. Thurm. (Des-3/Dco)

- (2) In September 1962, a VP (People's Police)  
doctors' training school was held at the Wilh-  
grad hunting retreat near Schwerin. It was  
directed by a police physician in the rank  
of a colonel. (F - 3)

Comment. It is assumed that the school is a  
successor to the medical training col-  
lege at Untermassenfeld, last mention-  
ed in August 1960.

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(3) LogisticsSupply Depot

On 27 November 1963, the Quitzow fuel dump was enlarged by one row of barrels. (C - 3)

Comment. The report presumably refers to a fuel dump of the 3rd Border Brigade (Perleberg), which was first identified in March 1963.

In February 1963, the NVA/Border Troops established a supply depot on the premises of a former school at Schoenebeck/Elbe. The depot stores engineer and chemical equipment as well as clothing. (Des - 3)

Comment. This NVA/Border Troops depot was not known prior to this report. The brigade supply depot of the 7th Border Brigade is carried at Regenstein (PC 354 424).

b) German People's Police

56 ABVs (Abschnittsbevollmächtigte = police officers each of whom is competent for one particular geographical section), who, since 1 April 1962, had been attending a combined training course, successfully concluded their studies just recently and were promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. The youngest graduate was 25, the oldest 53 years of age.

(Soviet Zonal press)

Comment. 'Combined training courses' are composed of a correspondence course (1st part) and a subsequent training course at the school itself (2nd part). It is worth noting that officer training courses are held not only at the Ascherleben 'Mittlere Polizeischule' (MPS = medium-level police school), but also in the 'bezirk' schools of the 'bezirk' authorities (BDVP). The difference in trainees' ages is another, noteworthy fact.

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7. SED Industrial Combat Groups (Home Guards)

Alarms

On 22 November 1963, at about 20.00 hrs, alert orders were issued to the combat groups, the German Red Cross units and the fire brigades in a 'Landkreis' (rural county) near East Berlin. All armed organs of the Ministry of the Interior were also alerted. By 23.00 hrs all important points were occupied. The alert lasted until noon of 23 November 1963. (B - 3)

Comment. The alert measures are presumably connected with the assassination of US President Kennedy,

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I. Soviet Union

Combat Effectiveness

1. Ftr Bmr Regt Grossenhain

- a. In mid-November 1963, there was intensive air activity at Grossenhain airfield despite bad weather. Supersonic aircraft flew at high altitudes using drag parachutes for landing.
- b. The supersonic flights caused the breaking of a number of window panes in several town sectors of Grossenhain. Numerous protests were made by local residents. During instruction meetings for VEB personnel it was explained that progress requires certain sacrifices. These "flight demonstrations" definitely prove the superiority of the Soviet Air Force. (F-2)

Comment. Ad a. Two squadrons of Ftr Bmr Regt Grossenhain have been re-equipped with FITTER (ZU-?) aircraft. The observed supersonic flights in bad weather indicate that a good training status has been reached and that the employment of FITTER as day fighters at high altitudes is being practiced. Equipped with 2 ATOLL air-to-air missiles and 2 auxiliary fuel tanks the FITTER is able to reach a speed of 2.1 Mach at the most favorable flight altitude of 11,500 m.

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Ad b. Other reports indicate that regardless of the population supersonic flights are also made at other airfields which are occupied by high-performance aircraft.

2. Radar Equipment in the Soviet SAM Site Near Gardelegen

(plane table sheet 3434)

In late October 1963, a FAN SONG C was observed in the Soviet SAM site at 32 U PD 651 236. (C-2)

Comment. This report confirms the presence of a FAN SONG set at Gardelegen SAM site.

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II. Soviet Zone of Occupation of Germany (Soviet Zone)

Location

Dresden-Klotzsche Airfield

On 23 November 1963, 5 FRESCO (MIG-17) and 9 CRATE (IL-14) were parked in the parking area of Dresden-Klotzsche airfield. (C-3)

Comment. The observed FRESCO aircraft are probably under repair in the Dresden-Klotzsche repair hangar. The CRATE aircraft belong to the 17th Air Trans Wing which transferred from Dessau to Dresden-Klotzsche in early November 1963. It is noteworthy that no COLT (AN-2) were parked at the airfield although 12 COLT belong to the air transport wing in addition to the 13 CRATE. The whereabouts of these aircraft remains to be clarified.

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II. Soviet Zone of Occupation of GermanyNVA/Navy1. Training Activity

During the period under review NVA/Navy activity concentrated on the surveillance of the off-shore region and the swept channels. Otherwise, the activity was moderate.

The following vessels were on patrol duty in the Fehmarn-Belt:

- 1 to 3 December (afternoon) KRAKE-Class minelaying and minesweeping vessel, Pt.No.226,
- 3 (afternoon) to 051000 A December KRAKE-Class minelaying and minesweeping vessel, Pt.No.224,
- 051000 A December to 062000 A December KRAKE-Class minelaying and minesweeping vessel, Pt.No.226,
- 7/8 December no patrol activity observed in the Fehmarn-Belt. (B-2)

2. Observations at Sea

On 021030 A December, the following vessels were noted in the Greifswald Bodden:

- 1. 2 boats, including Pt.No.G-63, heading for Ruden Island,
- 2. 2 boats, Pt.Nos. G-14, G-16, at work on the fairway buoys near Ruden Island,
- 3. 2 boats, Pt.Nos. V-07, V-10. (B-3)

Comment. To 1. KS-II-Class unit of the Border Brigade Coast.

To 2. Boats of the Border Brigade Coast with new Pt.Nos. Presumably TUEMMLER/DELPHIN-Class.

To 3. The Pt.Nos. have not been known up to now. Presumably ILTIS-Class motor torpedo boats.

On 051400 A December, HABICHT-Class vessel, Pt.No.R-21, was observed at position 5428 N 1133 E. (B-2)

Comment. HABICHT, Pt.No.R-21, is a rescue and hospital ship of the NVA/Navy.

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3. HAI-Class Subchaser

According to recent information the armament system of the types HAI-I and HAI-II is identical (cf. Weekly Report No. 33/63 and 45/63).

Both types have the following armament:

4 ASW rocket launchers RBU-1200 (Soviet MBU-1800) on the fore-castle,  
 one 57-mm twin AA (turret) on the quarter deck,  
 one 25-mm twin AA (automatic weapon, superimposed tubes) each on the fore and the after body. (B-2)

4. Civilian Crews Aboard Auxiliary Vessels

For some time (the exact date cannot be fixed) at least part of the NVA/Navy fleet of auxiliary vessels has civilian crews largely composed of former NVA/Navy members. Exceptions: the commander, the radio operator, and the signalman who are soldiers. (F-3)

Comment: The manning of auxiliary vessels of the NVA/Navy with a major part of civilian personnel is possibly due to a lack of soldiers.

The crew of tanker, Pt.No.C-21, is composed of 12 men. Since September 1962 the civilian crew of this tanker has been wearing a service uniform supplied by the NVA/Navy. It consists of navy-blue trousers and a jacket resembling those of the NVA/Navy chief petty officers (Meister) but without shoulder straps.

Cap: Up to the rank of quartermaster (Steuermann) the service cap of the NVA/Navy chief petty officers is worn, quartermasters and machinists wear the NVA/Navy officer's cap with a small golden stripe on the visor.

Insignia of rank: Men have no insignia, petty officers 2nd Cl. a golden 7 mm broad stripe around the sleeve. 1st and 2nd machinist have two stripes around the sleeve and the quartermaster several according to the certificate.

No specialist's insignia are worn. The work uniform of the crew is the same as that of the NVA/Navy.

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5. Refueling at Sea

For refueling at sea the tanker usually comes alongside from astern. The fueling is mostly done while the ships ride at anchor, rarely at low speed ahead. The maneuver "fueling in tow" has been planned but was never carried out by tanker C-21. (F-3)

6. Decommissioning of a Naval Vessel

According to an unconfirmed information SCHWALBE-Class sweeping pinnace, former Pt.No. 422, which suffered a collision damage off Gedser in the spring of 1963, is allegedly lying in the Warnow shipyard, Warnemuende, for wrecking. (F-6)

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G. Psychological Situation

(English version submitted in summary form only)

Soviet Zone of Occupation of Germany (Soviet Zone)

Psychological Situation in the Berlin Area

In November 1963 a decree was issued in East Berlin providing that all wounded refugees, including those with perilous wounds, must not be hospitalized in any hospital other than the so-called police hospital.

Psychological Situation in the Army

As compared with the long term personnel, the NVA conscripts regard themselves as being in an inferior position, since they are prohibited from bringing their private cars with them to the place where they are stationed. Only during their holidays they are allowed to use them.

An "Ideological Commission" is attached to NVA Political Main Administration, which, analogous to the reorganization of the Socialist Unity Party (SED), was founded after the SED's sixth party conference. This commission, which, apart from other functions, is responsible for education, art, and literature, is another additional institution designed to step up the politically oriented ideological activity in the Army.

In 1965, "Commissions for Socialist Defense Education" were founded in all districts and sub-districts of the Soviet zone in order to raise the defense readiness of the population, prepare the future conscripts for their NVA service and gain long term personnel from among their ranks. It is one of the commissions' aims especially to promote defense education at the colleges, in the Freie Deutsche Jugend (Free German Youth) and in the Gesellschaft für Sport und Technik (Association for Sports and Technology).

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