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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Soviet Army Exercise in the Wittstock Area	DATE DISTR.	29 October 1956
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1. On the evening of 24 August, a convoy of tanks, armored cars, AT guns, rocket launchers and trucks came from the direction of Rossow through Christdorf en route toward Wittstock. Some of the trucks contained troops and others were loaded with baggage.
2. At 1830 hours the following groups had taken up position:
 - a. In the woods on the northern side of the path from Christdorf to the Wittstocker Chaussee:
 - (i) Approximately 100 T34/85 tanks;
 - (ii) 30 2- and 3-axled armored cars;
 - (iii) About 50 trucks including 15-20 rocket launchers.
 - b. In the woods immediately to the east of the Wittstocker Chaussee and 4 - 500 m north of MR 328 839:

3 rows of 2- and 3-axled armored cars. Each row was about 800 m in length and all 3 were parallel to one another and to the Wittstocker Chaussee. No count of the vehicles could be made owing to their being partially obscured by trees.
3. None of the vehicles mentioned above were dug in but most of them were lightly camouflaged with twigs and branches. In general, they were drawn up at only 10-15 m intervals from one another but the drivers were obviously using the trees as natural camouflage.
4. During the day of 24 August, jet fighter aircraft made repeated flights at a height of about 2000 m over the area Rossow-Hersprung-Christdorf-Wittstock-Gadow, while at noon a formation of 12 jet fighters flew over the same area.

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5. At 1800 hours, a jet fighter made a mock attack on the armored cars to the east of the Wittstocker Chaussee from a height of about 800 m.
6. The above positions occupied by Soviet troops on 24 August were unoccupied early on 25 August.

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