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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Soviet Training Activities
MVD Replacements in Thuringia

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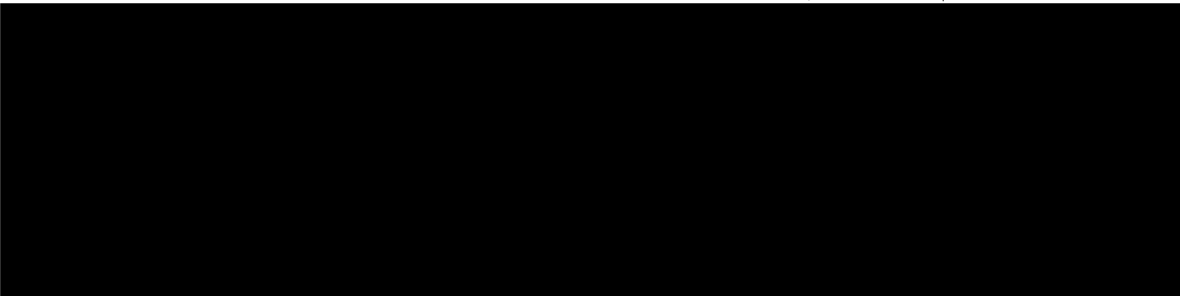
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SUPPLEMENT

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1. The Ohrdruf (J15) training area has been active since mid-April, according to a reliable source reporting in early June. He further states that the field is now occupied by approximately 20,000 men of a moto-mech corps composed as follows:

- 3 tank brigades, each with sixty tanks,
- 2 chemical regiments,
- 1 artillery regiment,
- 1 AA regiment.

2. The tanks of this corps are model Josef Stalin 2, with front armor at least nine centimeters thick and main armament of over 100 mm. There are approximately 180 of these and [REDACTED] twenty medium tanks, believed to be T-34's.

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3. [REDACTED] reporting the arrival of Soviet troops at Ohrdruf on 25 and 26 May, also estimates that strength at the training area is 20,000 to 30,000 men. Most of the troops are young. They are being given extensive field training in which infantry, artillery, and motor vehicles participate.

4. Beginning 1 June, approximately 10,000 "black" MVD troops stationed in Gera, Erfurt, Saalfeld and Nordhausen were withdrawn, concentrated at Weimar, and then shipped eastward by rail. Replacements arrived immediately and, up to 5 June, some 4,000 to 5,000 "red" MVD troops had made their appearance at Erfurt for assignment in the city as well as the others which had been evacuated. Most of the arrivals were conspicuously young, usually below the age of twenty.

5. On or about 1 June, border control in Thuringia, which had been exercised almost entirely by German police, reverted to Russian command. Russians in civilian clothes are now occupying the "no man's land" region and the Soviet Zone border. Check points are arranged in depth and there are also motorized control

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Auth: DDA Nemo, 4 Apr 77
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Date: 12 APR 1978 By: [REDACTED]

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