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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

INFO.

SUBJECT Russian OB in Thuringia

DIST. 30 October 1947

50X1-HUM

PAGES 2

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Weimar

1. All Germans were ordered to evacuate by 31 July 1947 the Südviertel of Weimar (the so-called Hypothekenhügel) in the area bounded by Berkaerstrasse and Rudolf-Breitscheidstrasse. This district was to become a Russian billeting area.
2. Other districts of Weimar to be evacuated at a later date were:
 - a. North of the Berkaer-Bahnhof and west of the Friedrich-Engelsring, including Pfeifferstrasse, Peter-Corneliusstrasse and Koonstrasse.
 - b. North of the Sportplatz: Friedrich-Engelsring, Blücherstrasse, and Dürrstrasse.
 - c. Kuhlmannstrasse, Rohlfstrasse, and Kohlstrasse.

3. Russian military personalities in Weimar:

- a. Colonel-General Pronin left Holzdorf, near Weimar, on 2 July 1947. 50X1-HUM
- b. Colonel-General Boldin left Weimar on 5 July 1947 for three weeks:
- c. General Cherkasov is to move from his present address at Weimar, Oldstrasse 13.
- d. Colonel Ivanov, formerly living at Weimar, Lottenstrasse 33, has now moved into the house of Police Chief Geisler at Elisabethstrasse 35.
- e. Lt. Colonel Kanzlashevsky is in charge of economic affairs at the Weimar Komendatura.

Erfurt

4. In Erfurt, twenty-seven streets in the "Steigerviertel" were being evacuated by German civilians in July 1947 to make room for Russians.

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Weimar-Erfurt-Arnstadt Area

5. In the first week of July 1947 large troop movements were observed on the Weimar-Arnstadt Autobahn; movement was from east to west.
6. On 3 July 1947 the right-hand side of both lanes of the Weimar-Erfurt Autobahn was reserved for Russian troops moving west. The right-hand lane was reserved for motorized columns and the left-hand lane for horse-drawn vehicles. The motorized columns consisted mainly of anti-aircraft, anti-tank and infantry gun units. Heavy mortars and occasionally guns (or possibly howitzers) of 120 to 150 mm caliber were also seen. All the columns observed made their way to Ohrdruf (J-15).

Langensalza-Eisenach Area

7. In late July 1947, Reichstrasse No. 84, between Langensalza (H-08) and Eisenach (H-76), was closed to civilian traffic by the Soviets to conceal tank concentrations on the Hainach (where the old training area of the Third Panzer regiment is located). Security measures were so strict that farmers in the area were not allowed to tend their crops.

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8. [redacted] the tanks had arrived on the Hainach by night after being unloaded in Langensalza and Eisenach. They were T-34 and Tiger (sic) tanks and numbered between 400 and 1,000. Artillery and AT equipment, from 76.2mm to 150mm, were also involved in this concentration. The troops on the Hainach were estimated to number about 10,000 to 15,000. Their ages ranged from twenty-five to thirty-five years and many of them were veterans, judging by the many campaign ribbons which they wore.

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9. A few weeks prior to the appearance of these troops the area was inspected by a force of staff officers in about twenty-five armored cars and staff cars.
10. During most of July the training ground at Ohrdruf was occupied by 25,000 or 30,000 motorized troops who were veterans aged twenty-five to thirty years. The equipment at the exercises included approximately 2,000 tanks [T-34s and Tigers (sic)] and artillery pieces of 76.2mm and upwards, as well as rocket projectors. The figures given for troops and tanks mentioned above are [redacted] to be carefully considered estimates.

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