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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland DATE DISTR. 30 July 1948
SUBJECT Disposition of Troops and Equipment in Poland NO. OF PAGES 2
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DATE OF INFO ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1A SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. Since March 1948 a marked increase in the number of railway transports carrying Soviet troops and military equipment from the USSR into Poland has been observed.
2. The two Polish railway lines being principally used for military transport are reported to be the following:
 - a. The northern route (east to west): Kouno-Rastembork (Rastenburg, R55/A29)-Elblag-Tczew-Pila-Starogard.
 - b. The southern route (east to west): Lubow-Przemysl-Krakow-Katowice-Wroclaw.
3. The Wilno-Grodno-Bialystok-Warsaw rail line is being used for military purposes only to Bialystok, which is the site of one of the largest Soviet arsenals in Poland. The most direct Berlin-Moscow line, via Frankfurt, Poznan, Kutno, Warsaw, Brzesc (Brest), and Kiev, is not being used for military transports, since this line has been set aside for all travel of diplomats and other foreigners going to or from Russia. By this means the Russians hope to create the impression that there is little or no movement of Soviet military personnel or equipment.

Soviet troop dispositions (by areas) in Poland as of 20-30 June 1948 were as follows:

- a. Starogard-Pila-Bialogrod area: approximately 80,000-100,000 troops, principally of the ground forces; motorized troops, motorized artillery; 7,000 men of the military railway service; 5,000 men of the Medical Corps; very few men of the airforce or armored troops.
- b. Poznan vicinity: approximately 8,000 troops, principally airforce personnel; 1 infantry regiment; 1 artillery regiment.
- c. Lignica-Wroclaw-Zabkowice area: approximately 70,000-80,000 troops, roughly evenly divided among motorized infantry and artillery, armored troops, and airforce troops. The headquarters are still located at Chudowa (Bad Kudowa, about 28 km. W of Kłodzko/Glatz).

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Extracted by I.R.

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- d. Lomza-Suwalki area: approximately 70,000 troops, regular infantry and artillery units. No airforce troops in area.
- e. Lublin-Zamosc-Chelm area: approximately 50,000-60,000 troops, principally motorized infantry and artillery; many airforce, engineer, and railway service units.
- f. The Soviet garrisons at Przemysl and Rzeszow together number about 12,000 troops, principally infantry and artillery plus 1 engineer group.
- g. The more recent arrivals among the troops in the above areas have been transferred from the Middle and Far Eastern areas. They are of the younger classes, and this is their first time in Europe. They are well equipped but in poor physical condition. Their discipline is not on a level with that of the troops previously stationed in these areas. Desertion is very frequent, and the military prisons do not have the facilities for handling all offenders.

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~~SECRET~~ Comment: It will be noted that the above figures are considerably higher than those furnished by ~~SECRET~~ in Warsaw in recent months.

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5. Soviet military equipment arsenals in Poland:

- a. Lodz (area northeast and east of the city): all types of airforce equipment, including great quantities of bombs of all sizes. New barracks are being constructed.
- b. Forest of Niepolomice (east of Krakow): principally artillery to all types, machine guns, tanks, and some planes, also artillery ammunition. New underground ammunition and bomb dumps are being built.
- c. Area between Rozwadow and Przemysl: concentration of artillery pieces, tanks, and planes; great quantities of ammunitions and bombs; underground dump building.
- d. Bialystok-Suprasl area: The town of Suprasl, northeast of Bialystok, has recently been evacuated and is becoming the Soviets' largest tank depot in Poland. Already the number of tanks is estimated at 1,000. The entire area is one huge arsenal.
- e. Large stockpiles of military equipment arriving from the interior of Russia are being laid out in the area immediately east of the Polish-Russian border. (The whole area is forbidden to the Poles.)

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