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[redacted]

25X1 Recent checks on discipline, morale, and political reliability in
25X1 Saxony disclosed that both Soviet troops in Germany and SMA
25X1 personnel are now better disciplined and have a much higher morale
25X1 than at any other time since the end of war. It was expected by
25X1 Soviet authorities that the reorganization of the SMA and large
25X1 scale redeployment (up to 25% of the total personnel) would start
25X1 a wave of desertions. But the evidence so far is that very few
Soviet citizens desert upon notification of their redeployment to the U.S.S.R. Soviet officials are now confident that defection is no longer a serious problem. Soviet military commanders, SMA officials, and Political Sections of SMA and of the Soviet troop units received commendation from Marshal Sokolovsky in acknowledgement of their superior work and devotion to duty.

25X1 [redacted] Comment: This development is considered significant in view of the fact [redacted]
25X1 that Col. Gen. Shikin, Chief of the Central Political Directorate of the Armed Forces of the U.S.S.R., in a special directive addressed to Maj. Gen. Andreev, then Chief of the Political Directorate SVAG,
25X1 severely censured Andreev for the "outstanding deficiencies in the work of the Political Directorate, its subordinate units, and the party organizations" which resulted in very unsatisfactory ideological-political education of enlisted personnel and half-hearted devotion
25X1 to political duties of Soviet officials. [redacted] Marshal Sokolovsky and his Army Deputy for Political Affairs, Lt. Gen. Ponomarev, addressed to Soviet Army unit commanders, refers to the recurring "betrayal of the Fatherland, suicides, robbery of the German population, performed by members of the Soviet occupational forces" in Germany. The main reason for this state of affairs is stated by Sokolovsky to be the fact that " Soviet military personnel were guilty of keeping or living with German women". Following this directive the Soviet security officials successfully limited the relations between Soviet personnel and Germans to bare minimum. There is no doubt that this segregation of Soviet personnel from the German population is credited with the now reported improvement of discipline and morality of Soviet Army and SMA employees. There is no doubt, therefore, [redacted] be maintained.)

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