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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Soviet Zone police is recruiting volunteers only. Applicants for police service have to sign up for a three-year term. Anybody may apply for service with the Soviet Zone police. Upon completion of a certain period of probation, an inductee may be discharged if he was rated "unsuitable". Officers of the former German Armed Forces may join the Soviet Zone police if they are recommended by "reliable" persons and if they are likely to cooperate along the Communist line.
2. Upon joining the Soviet Zone police inductees become "Polizei-anwaerter" (police candidates). Inductees attend several police schools with progressive training programs "Police candidates" usually go through the first three police schools without interruption. They may, however, and some already have been assigned to short-term duty with the border or criminal police between courses.
3. Upon graduation from the first three police schools, the so-called "basic schools", policemen are usually promoted to the rank of "Wachtmeister" (private) and subsequently assigned to a several-month term with the border, alert or regular police. Especially qualified policemen may be sent to advanced schools immediately after completion of the so-called "basic school". Graduates from advanced schools will be promoted to the rank of "Oberwachtmeister" (corporal). Graduates from the "Hoehere Polizeischule" (higher police school) of DESSAU-KOENIGSDORF (L 52/E 06) will receive their commission as "Kommissar" (lieutenant).
4. The police schools established for the training of the Soviet Zone police follow a progressive order, i.e. students must have graduated from one school to attend the next higher school.
5. Police schools are known to be located in the following Saxony-Anhalt towns:
 - a. ZERBST (L 52/D 98): "Basic" police school.
 - b. QUEDLINBURG (L 52/D 35): "Basic" police school.

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In accordance with the letter of 16 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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- c. BALLENSTEDT (M 52/D 45): Graduates will be promoted to the rank of "Oberwachtmeister" (corporal)
 - d. BERNBURG (M 52/D 76): Level unknown
 - e. HALLE (M 52/D 92): Level unknown (a police officer candidate school, according to another source).
 - f. TORBAU (M 52/D 64): Level unknown.
6. Attendance at "basic" police schools by police candidates is very high because several training courses overlap each other. The capacity of the advanced schools is limited (i.e. 150 to 200 students per course at the BALLENSTEDT police school).
 7. Trainees at the so-called "basic" police schools primarily undergo basic training (according to the former German Army infantry training manual) and instruction on infantry weapons, but trainees at advanced police schools are increasingly subject to political instruction and technical and tactical police training. Each police candidate has to attend a four-week political course at an S&U (Social Unity Party) school.
 8. Only after being promoted to the rank of "Polizeiwachtmeister" (private), will trainees receive technical police training proper at corresponding "Fachschulen" (technical police schools).
 9. Instruction in locating and tracing, service, identification service and interrogation technique are some of the special branches of police candidate training.

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Comment: The bearing of the Soviet Zone policemen, particularly that of the young policemen, is more disciplined than that of the police in the Western Zones of Germany. The young Soviet Zone policemen were subjected to political indoctrination so strong and skillful that it made them insensitive to all arguments based on reason. The Soviet Zone policemen are very self-assured and are convinced that nobody will resist them if, as they expect, they are some day committed to combat action. Although the Soviet Zone police is unpopular and in many instances corruptible, it should be borne in mind that, on the other side of the zonal border, a force is being built up which, in case of a steady development, must be reckoned with as a military factor.

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