

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 21 MAR 50

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information from HVA

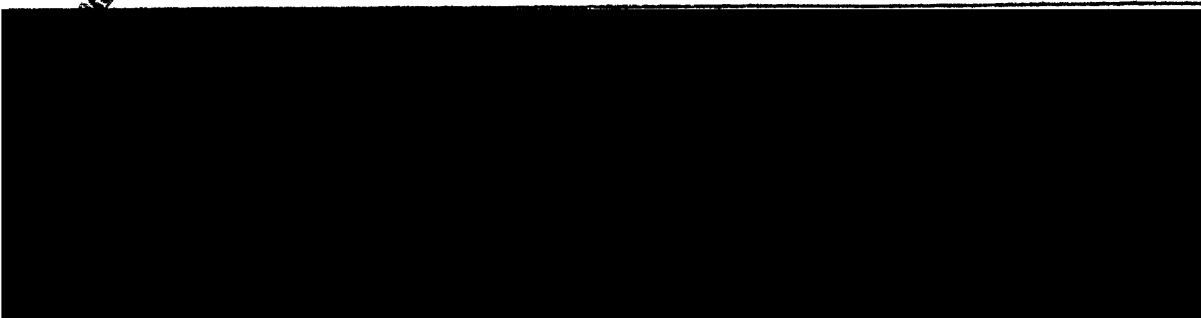
NO. OF PAGES 4

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X



1. Effective 24 February Chefinspekteur Zorn, head of Hauptabteilung Inspektion, was appointed chief pro tem. of the Hauptverwaltung für Ausbildung to succeed Generalinspekteur Wilhelm Zaisser, the first Minister of State Security of the DDR. Zorn has already moved into Zaisser's office. Zorn's appointment came as a considerable surprise even to those staff officers of the HVA who are generally well informed on impending developments.

Zorn has always been in the background of HVA affairs and only recently while substituting for Chefinspekteur Heinrich Heitsch, Chief of Staff, has he become known to a wider circle of HVA personnel. Zorn was a major serving with a German Air Force Staff. As a result he is not too well versed in land warfare problems, but has compensated for this shortcoming by accepting the advice of staff officers with more experience along those lines.

25X1X

Zorn's appointment, by-passing both Chefinspekteur Vulz and Chefinspekteur Heitsch, may have been prompted by political considerations. Zorn returned from the USSR with very high recommendations attesting to his political reliability.

2. A new function has been created in the person of the so-called "HVA Verbindungsoffizier" (HVA liaison officer), assigned to each Objekt, who will be charged with handling extraordinary occurrences affecting the security of the Objekt in question, sabotage, subversion, espionage, desertions, etc. This development was foreshadowed at the Bereitschaft commanders' conference in Berlin-Treptow on 1/2 February 1950. One of the commanders had been severely reprimanded for not promptly reporting the failure of one of his officers to return from leave. His excuse that the Sovietnik had advised against an immediate report was brushed aside by Zaisser, who pointed out that the Sovietnik occupied merely an advisory position and that the ultimate responsibility for what should be done in a given

STATE #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGRB															
ARMY #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI															

CONFIDENTIAL

Document No. **03**
 No Change in Class.
 Declassified
 Class. Changed To: TS S G
 Auth.: ER 78-2
 Date: 457R004509260094-4029

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

situation rests fully with the Objekt commandant. Furthermore, Zaisser stated, it was contemplated to assign a German liaison officer to each Objekt whose function it would be either to report cases of this type to the HVA or to take a decision on the spot. This liaison officer, in matters within his purview, would be responsible only to Berlin. In at least one instance an official has already been assigned and is known to be working in closest collaboration with the 2nd Sovietnik (believed to be a representative of the Soviet Secret Police).

It must be assumed that the liaison officer has his own reporting channels. Nothing definite is known about the organization of the apex of the liaison system within the HVA. Conceivably, a branch of the State Security Ministry has been established in the HVA, in control of the liaison officers.

3. A staff officer of Hauptabteilung Ausbildung (training) of the HVA is quoted as stating that the officers now undergoing training in the USSR can be expected to return by the end of March. [REDACTED], adding one month home leave, they will be available for assignment not later than 1 May. This, [REDACTED] is one of several indications that the major organizational moves may be contemplated for that date.

25X1A
25X1A

4. The recruitment of HVA personnel through Kreispolizeiamter (district police headquarters) is no longer in effect. All Objekte have been instructed to recruit forthwith 50 men each over their T/O strength. [REDACTED] these recruits will be used to fill vacancies which will develop as a result of the activation of Leitstellen (intermediate headquarters, one for each land).

25X1A

5. The new head of the Sanitäts und Veterinär Abteilung is Inspekteur Dr. (FNU) Mehlback, age: 38 years. He is a native of Köthen, Saxony-Anhalt and an eye specialist. During the Third Reich he held the position of MSKK Sturmführer. He was an officer in the German Army and was taken prisoner by the Russians during the Stalingrad battle. In 1948 he was an inmate of the Oranki POW camp, where he played a leading role as the propagandist of the camp Aktiv, being generally considered the best indoctrinated and most vocal exponent of the Marxian philosophy, thereby gaining the enmity of most of the captive officers in Oranki. Because of his implacable fanaticism the Russians considered it wise not to place him in charge of the Lageraktiv. This latter position was occupied by Engelbrecht, new chief assistant of Heitsch, and Colonel Meridies, former aide of General Vinzenz Müller. Mehlback returned to Germany in spring 1949 and resumed his practice in Köthen, where he later occupied several leading political positions. A short while ago his services were enlisted by the HVA. His deputy is the former chief of the Abteilung, Kommandeur Dr. Gerhard Sabinski.

6. A central ordnance collecting point servicing all Objekte of the HVA has been established in the Lichtenberg slaughter yard. Oberpolizeirat (FNU) Schmidt, formerly quartermaster of the VP school in Kaumburg/Saale, has been placed in charge. The collecting point is controlled by Hauptabteilung Intendantur of the HVA.

7. In conjunction with the celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army, a special medal was presented to the following; Chef Inspekteure von Weech (commandant of the VP School in Prora/Ruegen), Oberpolizeirat Hans Ziegenhagen and Kommandeur Weller (Hauptabteilung Personal). The award consists of a plaque depicting a Peoples' Policeman carrying a black, red, and gold flag, with the police star in the center, and an inscription to the effect that the bearer has rendered meritorious service to the police.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 3 -

8. The 3rd Saxon Bereitschaft at Leipzig (Category B) has been issued an 88mm PAK '43 on a split-trail gun carriage.
9. The HVA reacted very strongly to a recent rumor sweeping the Treptow Bereitschaft, linking the name of Oberpolizeirat Pannewitz with the alleged activation of an air force unit. One result was that several of Pannewitz's old friends in the Berlin Bereitschaft approached him regarding job prospects in that unit. Inspekteur Tutlitz, the commandant of the Berlin Bereitschaft, was instructed to initiate an investigation. Although he succeeded in narrowing down the circle of persons from whom this rumor is believed to have emanated, no disciplinary action could be taken in view of the lack of definite evidence.
10. The two key members of the Party Control Commission of the HVA Party organization are Inspekteure (FNU) Teigel and (FNU) Krochen. The former is said to have returned only recently from the USSR. He is approximately 38 years of age, height: 1.80 meter, build: slim, hair: dark, parted on the side, balding. Continuously wears a scowling expression. Described as the prototype of a GPU man. Both Teigel and Krochen belong to Hauptabteilung Polit/Kultur.
11. Still impending is the move of the HVA Adlershof premises formerly occupied by an Army test station. Kommandeur Engelbrecht has been assigned the allocation of office space. As of the date of the move, it can be presumed that the rule forbidding all HVA personnel to enter the Western sectors under any circumstances whatsoever will be strictly enforced, since S-Bahn communications will be such as to make unnecessary the crossing of Western territory.
12. The wife of Generalinspekteur Zaisser has lived for many years in the USSR and studied in that country. Persons who know her describe her as a highly intelligent, interesting and entertaining woman. Her daughter, the personal interpreter of Walter Ulbricht, has a perfect command of the Russian language. Frau Zaisser reportedly occupies some cultural function within the Gesellschaft für Deutsch-Sowjetische Freundschaft.
13. On 26 February a special training course was scheduled to begin at the Pirna school which will provide special training for wireless transmission personnel. It will be attended by 120 men specially selected from all Objekte, either on the basis of their technical proficiency or their general I/q. Housing space for these 120 students has been made available in the so-called "Graue Kaserne" at Rottweindorferweg 20.
14. The school at Pirna is composed of 8 signal companies, four of which train wireless transmission operators and four telephone operation personnel. In addition there are two engineer training companies. Pirna is badly hampered by its lack of experienced instructors.
15. Kommandeur (FNU) Stärker, formerly instructor in the VP school at Eggesin, has been appointed commandant of the 1st Saxon Bereitschaft. In that capacity he is also post commander of Leipzig. He returned from Russian imprisonment in September 1948, after serving as an officer in the German Army.
16. The Leipzig spring fair has confronted the Leipzig Bereitschaften with serious security problems. Approximately 45,000 visitors are anticipated. What should be done in order to prevent the uncontrolled mingling of Bereitschaft personnel and curious foreigners has been the subject of a high-level conference in Wilhelmsruh. The decision finally handed down was an order to place the Leipzig Bereitschaften

~~SECRET/CONTROL~~ - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY 25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 4 -

17. Polizeirat (FNU) Haak, commandant of the Kùchensee Bereitschaft, has been transferred to Berlin-Treptow and placed in charge of training (Ausbildungsleiter) of the Berlin Bereitschaft. His predecessor, Polizeirat Adams, has been appointed chief of one of the four Kommandos of that Bereitschaft.
18. The term Sonderkommandos is applied to mortar training platoons, one of which is believed to be part of each category A Bereitschaft. Its strength would be approximately 30 men.
19. An unconfirmed rumor places the location of the dVA naval unit, alleged to be in the process of activation, in the city of Stralsund. There are indications that repair and construction work will have to be done before personal housing facilities are available.
20. A former officer of the VP School in Pirna, Oberrat (FNU) Schmidt, has been assigned to the Operations Section of the Hauptabteilung Stab of the HVA. This section now consists of Kommandeur Engelbrecht, Kommandeur Heimann, Kommandeur Amm, Oberrat Uxa, Oberrat Schmidt and Polizeimeister Wernicke (office manager).
21. Kommandeur (FNU) Schomburg, head of Abteilung Geräte und Waffen, Hauptabteilung Intendantur, HVA, has been dismissed on grounds unknown [REDACTED] 25X1X

25X1A

* [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] Zaisser, as Minister of State Security, will also be in control of HVA affairs. Since the dVA has officially been designated an "angegliederte Hauptverwaltung" of the Ministry of the Interior, presumably a decision of the cabinet would be required revoking that order and placing the HVA under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of State Security. A great deal can be said in favor of source's surmise. For one thing it would be incongruous to leave a strictly military organization under the Ministry of the Interior. Up till now the functions of that Ministry in respect to the HVA have been merely formal, confined to certain types of logistic support and the rendering of assistance in negotiations with the Länder Ministries of the Interior. Furthermore, Zaisser's intimate acquaintance with dVA affairs and their kinship with the functions of the State Security Ministry would make logical the placing of the HVA under its jurisdiction.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET/CONTROL~~