

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT [redacted]

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. II MAY 50

SUBJECT Jet Aircraft at Laerz Airfield

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT [redacted] 50X1

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[redacted]

- On 24 February 1950 the following Soviet aircraft were observed at LAERZ airfield (U33): 31 jet fighters similar to those based at GERMENDORF (267); 4 jet fighters resembling YAKs; 28 YAK 7-B, 8 YAK-9; 10 LA-5.
- The four jet fighters are of a type very similar to the YAK-9 in wing shape, fuselage, rudder assembly, etc., the essential difference being that the jet lands on the forward wheel (it has a retractable three-wheel assembly). The intake is at the nose, the exhaust duct being placed about two-thirds back in the fuselage rather than at the tail. Overall length is estimated at eight meters. The fighter is a two-seater. [redacted] wings are no more than 11-13 centimeters thick, the entire wing being consistently thick. § 50X1-HUM
- The above jet type was seen in flight twice. Take-off, landing, and flight were superior to those made by the GERMENDORF type. The latter requires 1,300-1,400 meters for take-off, shortly after which it seems to hang helplessly in the air, waiting for renewed acceleration.
- [redacted] all the above jets arrived at LAERZ on 17 February 1950. 50X1-HUM
- About 200 SAF personnel are billeted in a settlement, evacuated by civilians, at the northwestern exit of the town. Others are in the enclosed area of the former GAF experimental station at RECHLIN; these go to LAERZ daily by truck.
- Shipping crates have been nailed together and placed on the edge of LAERZ airfield, directly above the canal, to foil observation. These crates are on wheels and measure four meters long, 1.60 meters wide, 2.80 meters high.
- Workmen in the area reported that, contrary to rumor, RECHLIN airfield definitely has been dismantled. It has, however, been visited several times recently by Soviet engineers.

§ Comment: [redacted] sighting one such jet over TORGAU on 24 February 1950. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
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