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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~ 25X1A

COUNTRY Bulgaria REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC 1. 19th Inf Regt
2. Soviet Troops in Bulgaria

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1A PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1X

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 25 July 1950

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - Standard Manpower Questionnaire

REMARKS _____

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19th Infantry Regiment

1. The 19th Inf Regt had cover No 4135 and was located in Razgrad (R 43/44/J 03) up to December 1949. The other unit in the barracks occupied by the regiment was a border guard unit, a so-called Marzia Regiment. Most of the elements of the latter unit were stationed at another post.
2. The 19th Inf Regt was subordinate to the 4th Danube Div in Ruse (R 43/44/H 57), which was commanded by Colonel Botev, (fnu).
3. Major Stoyinovski, (fnu), about 38 years old, was the regimental commander. He was sent to Moscow in November 1949 to attend a training course. The officers of the regiment included Captain Conec, (fnu), about 34 years old, the political officer; First Lieutenant Boneff, (fnu), ordnance officer; Dr. Arnodoff, (fnu), regimental physician; First Lieutenant Nedeff, (fnu), CO of a battalion; and two political officers who attended a partisan-training course at a school in Baja, Hungary, and First Lieutenant Nedelceff, (fnu), a Communist Party member, CO of a battalion.
4. The regiment was organized into the regimental headquarters, a signal company, commanded by Lieutenant Dunoff, the I Bn of two companies, the II Bn of two companies, the III Bn of two machine gun companies, and the IV Bn of one mortar and one AT company. The AT Co was commanded by Lieutenant Alexander, (fnu). *
5. There were about 90 men in the 1st Co of the I Bn, which was commanded by First Lieutenant Stoyieff, (fnu), a Communist. It was equipped with Soviet rifles and submachine guns, and with Czech 7.92-mm light machine guns.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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6. An ordnance depot consisting of four large buildings was constructed in 1948 in the area bordering on the Razgrad barracks. The depot was surrounded by a ditch and a barbed-wire fence. Guards were in observation towers which were equipped with searchlights.
7. The regiment participated in the winter maneuvers of the 4th Danube Div, held near Ruse (R 43/44/ H 57) in February 1949. Maneuvers with the Third Army, which were scheduled for a later date, were not held because General Marko Atanasoff, CinC Third Army, and Colonel Botev, (fnu), CG 4th Danube Div, were arrested. **

Soviet Troops in Bulgaria

8. Soviet troops with many tanks and motor vehicles were in the Yambol (B 14/B 93) area in March 1949. Soviet military trains were seen on the Sofia-Varna and the Sofia-Ruse railroad lines in September 1949. ***
9. The ordnance depot at Razgrad was supervised by a Soviet detail of about platoon strength. This detail also supervised the training of Bulgarian troops. The Soviet attitude toward the Bulgarians was especially polite.

- 25X1A * [REDACTED] Comment. First report on an infantry regiment with such an organization.
- 25X1A ** [REDACTED] Comment. Atanasoff was reported frequently as being CinC Third Army prior to February 1949.
- 25X1A *** [REDACTED] Comment. The statements on Soviet troops in Bulgaria during several 1949 press dispatches. Although no other [REDACTED] on Soviet troops in Bulgaria at that time, the information by the deserter is considered possible because Soviet troops were stationed in Bulgaria as instructors in 1949.

1 Annex: Standard Manpower Questionnaire

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