

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	25X1	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC	14th Inf Regt	25X1		
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REMARKS				25X1
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General

1. The 14th Inf Regt was subordinate to the 10th Inf Div in Kosice which, in turn, was assigned to the Hq 4th MD in Bratislava. The 20th Inf Regt in Presov and Bardejov, the 32d Inf Regt in Kosice, the 11th Arty Regt in Kosice and a howitzer artillery regiment at an unknown post were also subordinate to the 10th Inf Div. (1) Colonel Sezamsky, (fnu), succeeded General Perko, (fnu), as commanding general of the 10th Inf Div. (2)
2. [Redacted] to the 14th Inf Regt since October 1949. The regiment was named Hrdinu sovjetskeho svazu Kapitana Jana Nalepky. (3)
3. The regimental headquarters and its regimental units were located in barracks south of Roznava (R 49/E 49), east of the road to Plesivec (R 49/D 62). The I Bn was quartered in the Safarikovy Barracks consisting of two and three-story brick buildings on the northern perimeter of Tornalja (Q 49/D 51). The Repl Bn was stationed in Jelsava (Q 49/D 53); and a subordinate SNB battalion in Rimavska Sobota (Q 49/D 31).
4. The officers of the regimental headquarters included Colonel Jan Krnac, commanding officer; Major Stejskal, (fnu), deputy CO; Major Mikulas Balaz, adjutant; Staff Captain Oldrich Pribyl, DOZ officer; Captain Frantisek Gartnarek, supply officer; and Staff Captain Otto Vosta, mobilization officer. (4)
5. Fifty percent of the EM were Czechs and fifty percent Slovaks. Recently recruits of Hungarian nationality were also drafted.

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About 5 percent of the EM were members of the Communist Party. Desertions were frequent, and deserters apprehended were generally punished with three or four weeks of solitary confinement.

#### Organization.

6. The 14th Inf Regt was composed of regimental units, a I Bn, a Repl Bn, and an SNB battalion. Included in the regimental units were a Hq Co, an SMG Co, an Inf Gun Co, and an NCO school. (5)
7. The Hq Co, commanded by Senior Lieutenant Pavel Bystry, comprised a signal platoon, an engineer platoon, and a headquarters platoon which included medical personnel, craftsmen, and clerks. The SMG Co, commanded by Lieutenant Jiri Soucek, had about 140 men. The Inf Gun Co, commanded by Lieutenant Hojmir Cervac, had two platoons with two 76.2-mm AT guns each, and one platoon with two 120-mm mortars. Each section had one chief of section, six gunners, and two drivers. The equipment was horse-drawn. The NCO school, under Staff Captain Jan Kyselice, was organized into an infantry gun platoon, a heavy machine gun platoon, and a mortar platoon. Seventy-five EM attended the course from 15 November 1949 to 15 March 1950.
8. The I Bn, commanded by Staff Captain Jan Kyselice, comprised two infantry companies and one heavy weapons company. The heavy weapons company's equipment, which was horse-drawn, included four heavy machine guns, six 45-mm AT guns and eight 82-mm mortars.
9. The Repl Bn comprised office personnel and twelve officers, who were mostly former NCOs. Commanding officer was Staff Captain Josef Soltes. The battalion was in charge of the induction of reservists, the mobilization plan, and personnel rosters of the regiment.
10. The SNB battalion included about 600 recruits who moved into the barracks in Rimavska Sobota on 1 October 1949. They had volunteered for SNB service upon completion of their basic training. They wore army uniforms with red SNB epaulets and were said to be earmarked for border guard service on the Czech-Hungarian border. A battalion of the 14th Inf Regt had been stationed in Rimavska Sobota prior to 1 October 1949. The battalion was deactivated, and only craftsmen, kitchen personnel and 35 reserve NCOs, detached from the regiment in late October 1949, were left behind. (6)

#### Armament and Equipment.

11. The I Bn had Czech rifles, model 24, Italian Beretta sub-machine guns, light machine guns, model 36, and Soviet-made Maxim heavy machine guns. Czech heavy machine guns, model 37 were to be issued in case of mobilization. The 76.2-mm ammunition included shells with percussion and delay fuzes, incendiary ammunition, smoke shells, tracer ammunition, and ammunition specially designed for penetration. German bazookas of the Panzerfaust and Panzerschreck types were stored at the regiment.

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12. The regiment had only four 3.5-ton Ford trucks and seven cross-country motor vehicles. The I Bn was equipped with Czech infantry carts, model 49, Soviet-type horse-drawn vehicles and German horse-drawn infantry vehicles. The regiment had 120 horses, including 16 riding-horses.

#### Training

13. Basic training for all components lasted six weeks and was performed in accordance with Soviet manuals, translated into Czech by the units themselves. Soviet field manuals, including one on close-combat fighting, were available. The state of training was low, discipline bad, and the military bearing poor. Reserve personnel were participating in three-week exercises in April, May, and August 1949. The last major exercises at regimental and division level were held in August 1949.

#### Preparations for Mobilization

14. In case of mobilization the infantry gun company of the regiment was to activate two more units armed with 76.2-mm AT guns and 120-mm mortars. The mobilization strength was 320 men, 240 horses, eight 76.2-mm guns, four 120-mm mortars and four heavy machine guns.

#### 25X1 Military Pass

15. A copy of a temporary military pass (Docasny vojensky Preukaz) was obtained in Presov in May 1950. The temporary pass serves as a record of military service, according to explanations on the reverse side of the pass, and as a rail travel authorization for the trip from the unit to the home town. (7)

#### 25X1 Comments.

- (1) The information indicates that the organization of the 10th Inf Div has not been changed since October 1949 with exception of the Howitzer artillery regiment which is not believed to be a component of the 10th Inf Div. The statement that the 10th Inf Div is subordinate to the 4th MD is not evidence that there are no longer any corps headquarters in Slovakia. [redacted] did not know of any corps headquarters since these are seldom mentioned in public.
- (2) A Colonel Sozansky was identified as chief of staff in September 1949. He may be the commanding officer, Colonel Sezansky. Perko was still identified in Kosice in May 1949, but he allegedly was relieved by Colonel Malar, (fnu), in September 1949.
- (3) The surname actually reads "Hrdiny S.S.S.R. Kapitana Nalepky" (Hero of the U.S.S.R. Captain Nalepky).
- (4) Colonel Jan Krnac was previously assigned to the Hq 4th MD in Bratislava.
- (5) The information on the organization of the 14th Inf Regt confirms a previous report, obtained in October 1949, on the reorganization of the 10th Inf Div. [redacted]

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The organization of the 20th Inf Regt, as reported then, is identical with the organization of the 14th Inf Regt, thus confirming the previous estimate that the 10th Inf Div has been only a cadre division since October 1949. [Redacted]

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25X1 (6)

It was previously reported that the billets vacated by the 10th Inf Div were to house SNB units over which the regiments of the 10th Inf Div would have administrative jurisdiction.

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[Redacted] This information is confirmed by the present report, at least with regard to the 14th Inf Regt.

(7)

See Annex 2 for translation of the temporary pass.

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