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FVD 852

CLASSIFICATION SECRET [redacted] 25X1

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

TOPIC Volkspolizei Bereitschaft in Pinnow

[redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 6 August 1950

[redacted] 25X1 DATE PREPARED 11 September 1950

[redacted] 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1

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[redacted]

1. There were 1,136 officers and men in the VP Bereitschaft in Pinnow (N 54/Q 21). The officers included VP Oberrat Drueckner, (fnu), CO; and VP Oberrat Stuebeling, (fnu), Dpty CO and PK-Leiter. *

2. The Bereitschaft had four T-34 tanks and four SP guns of 122 mm caliber. The armored vehicles, which were always ready for operation, were accessible only to the crews trained on them. ** The first companies of each Kommando were armed with 98-K carbines. The second companies were equipped with submachine guns.

3. Three boxcars of ammunition had been stored at the VP Bereitschaft prior to the Whitsun rally of the FDJ. No large shipments arrived after that date. The ammunition which was in storage had not been issued.

4. The motor vehicle equipment of the Bereitschaft included 12 Soviet caterpillar ammunition carriers, 4 Soviet trucks, 2 Horch trucks, an Opel truck, 5 passenger cars and a passenger car for the Soviet Inspekteur. Gasoline came from Eberswalde (N 53/V 08).

5. Basic infantry training, conducted according to German Army manuals, was scheduled to be completed by 1 September 1950. All police had participated at least once in combat practice firing. They were trained in the handling of 98-K carbines and submachine guns. About 200 police were trained as drivers of tank- and SP-guns. Advanced training in combat firing with the armored vehicles was to be conducted soon in the area of See am Felchow.

25X1 * [redacted] Comment. The 2nd VP Bereitschaft (Armd) has been confirmed frequently as
25X1 being in the old ammunition depot at Pinnow. [redacted]
25X1 VP Oberrat Stuebeling was previously identified as PK-Leiter. [redacted] The statement on the strength bears out the generally observed increase in personnel of the Bereitschaften.

25X1 ** [redacted] Comment. The small number of armored vehicles indicates that the armored Bereitschaften must still be considered as training units rather than combat units. The 122-mm SP guns probably were the old-type Soviet SU-122 SP guns with 122-mm howitzers rather than new ISU-122 or SU-249 SP guns.

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