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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Military Information from Potsdam

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 12 October to 1 November 1950

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DATE PREPARED 6 December 1950

REFERENCE

PAGES

REMARKS

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1. Between 12 October and 1 November 1950, the Unteroffizier Schule on the east side of Jaegerallee, Potsdam (N 53/2 63), was occupied by troops of not less than company strength. The troops wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. About 150 troops were seen at a roll call. Soldiers who entered the installation were challenged for a password.

2. Officers of various branches of service were seen entering and leaving the barracks installation on the west side of Jaegerallee. The billeting area included a motion picture theater and a club.

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The barracks installation also housed officers' families. [Redacted] the installation was occupied by personnel of the SOG for Land Brandenburg. (1)

3. According to local residents, the former HJ Reichsfuehrerschule (Hitler Youth leader school) on Berlinerstrasse housed key sections of the SOG for Land Brandenburg. (2) The military hospital on Brandhorstweg was occupied to capacity. (3) The barracks installation at Brandenburgerplatz housed the German finance office. (2) The Alexandrovka Settlement on Medlitzerstrasse was not occupied by troops.

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4. Between 12 October and 1 November, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Pappelallee was occupied by officers of various branches of service, particularly by officers wearing tank, artillery and engineer insignia. [Redacted] instruction courses for officers were conducted there. There was no motor traffic. Many troops were seen walking between the Adolf Hitler Kaserne and the buildings opposite the Kriegsschule on Kirschallee. (1)

5. The southern section of the Bornim Kriegsschule on Pappelallee, corner of Kirschallee, was not occupied. The windows were closed and were not lighted in the evenings. The northern section was occupied by troops of about battalion strength who wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 1 November, 40 soldiers, apparently recruits, equipped with entrenching tools, were observed at the installation.

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The buildings opposite the installation were occupied by officers and their families.

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6. The Ruinenberg Kaserne, formerly Garde Ulanen Kaserne, on the south side of Pappelallee was completely destroyed.

7. On 22 October, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Pappelallee was occupied by a high-echelon headquarters. Fifty to sixty field-grade officers and about 250 Soviet men and women, either in civilian clothes or in uniform, were seen there. The officers were from various branches of service. Some of them wore the insignia of the administrative and medical services and of the judge advocate general's department.

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(4)

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8. On 24 October, AA gun emplacements were still observed on Pornstodterfeld. The ammunition dump had been enlarged and was lighted by floodlights at night.

9. The 3d Garde Ulanen Kaserne housed a large repair shop engaged in the overhauling of motor vehicle engines. On 24 October, two turners and twelve mechanics were employed at the repair shop.

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10. On 30 and 31 October it was learned that about 500 troops were quartered in the Unteroffizier Schule on Jaegerallee. Half of the installation was occupied by officers and the other half by NCOs and EM. The troops were said to have moved into the installation recently.

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11. The former Militaerwaisenhaus (military orphanage) was not occupied by troops. Since July 1949, the barracks installation on Priesterstrasse has housed the Volkspolizei Headquarters for Land Brandenburg and a police jail. The barracks installation on Brandenburgerplatz housed the finance office for Land Brandenburg. The buildings of the HJ Reichsfuehrerschule (Hitler Youth leader school) included the Landtag building for Brandenburg. (2)

12.

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Colonel Kuzulin (fnu), Lieutenant Colonel Elekseov (fnu), and Major Markhenko (fnu), were allegedly assigned to offices in the Kriegsschule. Their names are spelled phonetically. A Soviet bank, a library, a club, a theater, and administrative offices were located in the installation. (5)

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13. On 30 October an unidentified 3rd Army numbered 4 officers, 22 NCOs and 71 EM. On the same day, eight German employees were discharged by the political officer, allegedly because of lack of money. More discharges were to follow. On 1 November, sentries were again ordered to check all handbags, briefcases, etc. of the German employees. Between 2 and 4 November, the recruits in the installation received artillery drill in the morning and infantry training without rifles in the afternoon.

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Comments.

- (1) [Redacted] personnel of the Soviet Komendatura in Potsdam are quartered there.
- (2) Compare with similar information [Redacted] supplied in mid-September 1950.
- (3) The information confirms Military Hospital [Redacted] between Voltairostrasse and Brandhorstweg.
- (4) [Redacted] instruction courses for officers were conducted in the installation.
- (5) The units and offices in the Kriegersschule have not been determined. According to previous reports, either a guard unit of the Soviet Komendatura, a hotel for officers, or a signal battalion [Redacted] commanded by Colonel Kuzulin (fnu) were located there.

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- (7) The 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig of the unidentified Arty Div in Potsdam is, with a reasonable degree of certainty, believed to be stationed in the Dolius Kaserne. [Redacted] the brigade is probably organized into a headquarters and headquarters battery and three battalions, each consisting of three 4-gun batteries. Consequently, the brigade must have been equipped with 36 guns. However, [Redacted] thirty-six 122-mm guns and twelve 152-mm guns returned from Altengrabow on 13 October 1950, and [Redacted] another eight 152-mm guns returned on 19 October 1950. [Redacted] Consequently the brigade should perhaps have been organized into three battalions, each consisting of three batteries with four 122-mm guns, and two (?) battalions, each consisting of three batteries with four (?) 152-mm guns. This organization however, appears less credible.

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