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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Volkspolizei Guard Units in Berlin and Berlin-Karlshorst

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PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In October and November 1950, it was learned that the VP guard battalion in Berlin was reduced in size and reorganized into a so-called VP Bereitschaft Kommando Berlin of 300 police, consisting of two companies of four platoons each. The unit, which was directly subordinate to the safety police department of the Berlin city police headquarters, was fully motorized and commanded by VP Oberrat Buschberg, (fnu). Its PK officer was VP Rat Bock, (fnu), who was taken over from the VP guard battalion. Trucks and motorcycles of the new unit were parked in the motor pool on Kupfergraben. The unit's headquarters was located at 1 Geschwister-Scholl-Strasse.
2. A so-called VP Wachkommando (guard unit) Karlshorst was activated from young police from the individual police precincts in Berlin at the beginning of December 1950. The unit was stationed at 3 Waldow Allee, Karlshorst, and took over patrol and guard duty in the restricted area in Karlshorst from Soviet Army personnel. It was commanded by VP Rat Piotrowski, (fnu). Its PK officer was VP Kommissar Koffke, (fnu).
3. During the first half of January 1951, the so-called VP-Bereitschaften Kommando Berlin was brought up to a total strength of about 400 police by adding a third and a fourth company.
4. In mid-January it was learned that the so-called VP Kommando Bereitschaft Berlin, which had been activated from the former VP guard battalion Berlin, would allegedly receive additional personnel. The unit's headquarters and one Sonderkommando, totaling about 140 police, were stationed in the East-Berlin city police headquarters, while its 1st through 4th Co were located in Berlin-Joachimsthal and its 5th and 6th Co in the Wendenschloss (castle), Berlin. Officers at the unit's headquarters were VP Rat Buschberg, (fnu), commanding officer; VP Kommandeur Bock, (fnu), PK officer; VP Kommandeur Padelt, (fnu), in charge of correspondence and records; and VP Oberrat Alexander, (fnu), whose functions were unknown. Like the former VP guard battalion, the so-called VP Kommando Bereitschaft furnished guard personnel for governmental buildings, apartments of ministers and political functionaries, and the residence of Soviet Ambassador Pushkin.

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