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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT

TOPIC 1. 2d Border Guard Battalion in As CONFIDENTIA

2. 32d Infantry Regiment in Moravia

EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

DATE OF CONTENT _____ 50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 4 May 1951

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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2d Border Guard Bn.

1. Prior to 14 February 1951, the 2d PS Bn in As (M 51/P 18), commanded by Lieutenant Zejmln, (fnu), was subordinate to the PS brigade in Cheb (N 51/P 37) which was commanded by Major Okroulik, (fnu). The battalion had three border guard companies, one in Polna (Hirschfeld, M 51/P 28), the second in Liba (Liebstein, M 51/P 27) and the third in Novy Zdar (Neuenbrand, M 51/P 18). (1)

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2. The company in Polna used _____ the Cheb post office, and was quartered in a forester's house. The company consisted of one senior sergeant and 41 soldiers who were armed with models 48-A and 48-B submachine guns and four light machine guns. The company also had two trained dogs, three field telephones, and one Skoda-Tudor passenger car.

3. The company guarded a border sector of three sq km, the patrols and stationary guards being on six-hour duty. Guard relief was very lax: the guards often left their post prior to the arrival of the relief. The guards remained in the border zone _____ beyond their duty hours only when alerted.

4. Other PS companies known _____ in Vyhledy (Steingruen, M 51/P 28), a second in Dolni Paseky (Niederreuth, M 51/P 29), a third in As (on Selberstrasse), a fourth in Mokrin, about three km southeast of As, a fifth in Doubrava (Gruen, M 51/P 29) and a sixth in Krasna (Schoenbach, M 51/P 19).

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5. From 21 October to 21 December 1950, a course of instruction was conducted at the PS training center located in a former textile factory in Hazlov (M 51/P 28). There were 126 soldiers in the course, 96 from the 32d Inf Regt in Kosice (R 49/E 34) and 30 from an infantry unit in As. Thirty percent of the trainees were Czechs and 70 percent Slovaks. Their morale was rather bad.

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32d Inf Regt.

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6. Prior to 20 October 1950, the 32d Gardsky Inf Regt. [redacted] was subordinate to a division headquarters in Kosice which was commanded by General Malar, (fnu), who had succeeded Colonel Zak, (fnu). The regiment headquarters and the regimental headquarters units were billeted in the Svobodovy Barracks on Kolotov ulice, in the Stefanikovy Barracks on Hlavni ulice, in the Urbanovy Barracks on Masarykova ulice, and in the Legionarsky Barracks on Modlitebni ulice, Kosice. The 1st Bn was stationed in Trebisov (R 49/E 62). (2)
7. Lieutenant Colonel Havelka, (fnu), has been commanding officer of the regiment since July 1950; he succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Manina, (fnu), and Lieutenant Colonel Cerny, (fnu). Other officers of the regiment were Staff Captain Samo, (fnu), chief of staff; Junior Lieutenant Stefan, (fnu), political officer; Captain Petrasovik, (fnu), ordnance officer; and Captain Koch, (fnu), commanding officer of the submachine gun company. About 70 percent of the personnel of the regimental units were Czechs and 30 percent Slovaks.
8. The regimental headquarters units included the headquarters company of about 260 soldiers, the submachine gun company of about 120 soldiers, the heavy weapons company, the gun company, and the guard company of about 300 soldiers.
9. The headquarters company, located in the Svobodovy Barracks, consisted of a reconnaissance platoon of about 50 soldiers, most of them recruits; a technical platoon of 30 soldiers organized into a telephone section with 18 telephones and a radio section with a radio line; an engineer platoon of about 45 soldiers; and an auxiliary platoon of 135 recruits. (3) The regimental band, which was very large, was also billeted in the same barracks installation.
10. The headquarters company was equipped with model 24 rifles, Bereta submachine guns and, for each platoon, three model 26 light machine guns. The gun company had four Soviet 45-mm guns and four 120-mm mortars, and the heavy weapons company had four Soviet 45-mm guns and four 82-mm mortars. The submachine gun company was armed with models 48-A and 48-B submachine guns. About 100 riding and draft horses and 50 to 60 horse-drawn vehicles were seen with the units in Kosice.
11. In addition to the 32d Inf Regt, heavy artillery troops from Presov (R 49/E 37), AAA troops from Bratislava (P 49/X 99), and an unidentified tank brigade participated in the maneuvers held in the area of Zvolen (Q 49/C 74) in May 1950. (4)
12. Other units in Kosice included the 308th Mtz Arty Bn on Delostrelecka ulice, a motor transport battalion on Hlavni ulice, a cadet school on Komensky ulice, an SNB school in the city center, and a replacement battalion with an equipment depot in the Zizkovy Barracks. (5)

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[redacted] Comments.

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- (1) The information confirms the PS brigade in Cheb and the PS battalion in As. According to a previous report, the company in Liba belongs to a PS Battalion in Cheb. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- (2) The information confirms [redacted] name, and commanding officer of the 32d Inf Regt in Kosice. [redacted] However, it is doubted that only the headquarters and the regimental headquarters units of the 32d Inf Regt are located in Kosice. Since elements of the regiment were quartered in four barracks installations in Kosice, and since these elements reportedly included a heavy weapons company, which can only be a component of a battalion organically assigned to a regiment rather than to an independent battalion, it appears that one of the battalions of the 32d Inf Regt may be stationed in Kosice. [redacted] Malar, (fnu), was identified as the 50X1-HUM commanding officer of the division in Kosice as early as 1949, when he was still a colonel. [redacted] In April 1950, however, one Colonel Seza 50X1-HUM sky was reported to hold this position. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- (3) The strengths of the units were probably overestimated.
- (4) The AAA troops from Bratislava probably belonged to the 153d AAA Regt.
- (5) The 308th Arty Bn belongs to the 8th Arty Brig and has been repeatedly confirmed in Kosice. It was stationed in the Ziskovy Barracks in March 1949. The motor transport battalion probably is the 8th which was previously identified in Kosice. [redacted] an SNB school was to be 50X1-HUM established in Kosice in March 1949.

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