

29
COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Soviet Troops in Potsdam.

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 31 May 1951

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REFERENCES

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PAGES

4

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. On 25 April 1951, the Hohenlohe Kaserne in Potsdam (N 53/Z 63), was occupied to capacity. Gate guards wore red-bordered black epaulets. About two companies of troops received basic infantry training in the barracks yard.

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Trucks [] were seen in traffic at the installation. Four prime movers, each towing a 152-mm artillery piece, and 2 [] tank trucks entered the installation, coming from the Delius Kaserne. *

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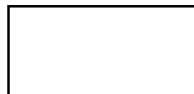
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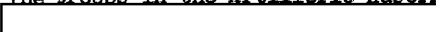
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2. The troops in the Artillerie Kaserne had not departed by 25 April. Trucks  stood in front of the barracks installation, loaded with boxes of ammunition. *

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3. Activity of the troops in the Delius Kaserne between 26 and 30 April was described as follows:

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26 April. Cleaning of vehicles and guns and exchange of caterpillar tracks by the trained personnel from 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; preparing of guns and vehicles by the trained personnel from 1 to 3 p.m.; individual training of 180 unarmed recruits, supervised by 6 officers and 24 sergeants, from 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; indoctrination of recruits from 1 to 3 p.m.; political indoctrination of all troops at 5 p.m.

27, April Gun drill with 122-mm and 152-mm artillery pieces by trained personnel, from 9:20 to 12 a.m.; cleaning of guns by the trained personnel from 12:30 to 3 p.m.; individual training and physical exercise of

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recruits from 9:20 to 12 a.m.; indoctrination of recruits from 12:30 to 3 p.m.; political indoctrination of all troops at 5 p.m.

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28 April. Departure of recruits on trucks [redacted] to get fir branches at 8:30 a.m.; decorating of the installation, apparently for May Day, by all troops.

30 April. Policing of quarters and making of garlands by all troops. * No German laborers were allowed to enter the barracks installation on 1 and 2 May. [redacted] all political officers from major upward were called to Moscow for a three-week course. These officers allegedly included the political officers from the artillery and the engineer unit in the Delius Kaserne, and from units in the Hohenlohe Kaserne, the Ludendorff Kaserne, and the Kriegsschule.

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4. [redacted] troops with 42 tanks and 32 trucks were among vehicles leaving the installation on 26 April and that, [redacted] the troops moved to a place close to the zonal border near Magdeburg. It was said that the Kavallerie Schule quartered three units on 26 April. ***

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5. The Artillerie Kaserne in Potsdam was occupied to capacity by about 750 troops on 3 May. Gate guards wore black epaulets. *

6. On 3 May, the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 750 troops. Soldiers [redacted] wore red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia. Caterpillar tractors [redacted] towing 122-mm artillery pieces, left the installation toward Krampnitz on 26 April. On 28 April, the troops there were engaged in fatigue duty only. On 3 May, 10 groups of 15 soldiers each, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were engaged in close-order drill. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen in the traffic at the installation. *

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7. The Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 1,200 troops on 3 May. Soldiers [redacted] wore red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia. Motor vehicles identified in barracks traffic [redacted] *

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8. On 3 May, the Ludendorff Kaserne quartered about 800 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, some of them with artillery insignia. Four 37-mm AA guns were parked in the barracks yard on 26 April. Troops were drilling at platoon level on 28 April. [redacted] school trucks [redacted] were identified in the billeting area. *

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9. The Adolf Hitler Kaserne still housed a high-echelon headquarters on 3 May. Gate guards wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 27 April, a two-seated biplane landed on Bornstedterfeld, just northwest of the barracks installation. Two one-star generals entered the installation on 2 May. Passenger car [redacted] was parked in front of the installation.

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10. Officers and military officials of all branches of service entered and left the Kriegsschule on 3 May. Sentries there wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. No details on the strength of troops there were obtained. Motor vehicles [redacted] were [redacted] in the billeting area.

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11. On 3 May, the entrances to the eastern section of the Kavallerie Schule in Krampnitz were closed. Patrols were no longer seen. Gate guards at the western section wore red-bordered black epaulets. Trucks [redacted] carrying billeting equipment. While the eastern section seemed to be vacant, [redacted] the

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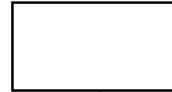
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impression that the western section still quartered a rear detail which was engaged in loading work. ***

12.

[Redacted] prior to 1 May, 75 percent of the bread has been delivered to the Soviet Army and only 25 percent to the German population. Effective 1 May, the Soviet Army canceled its contracts. This measure was in contrast to the practice of the preceding years when, though absent from the post, the units still received their bread from the bakery.

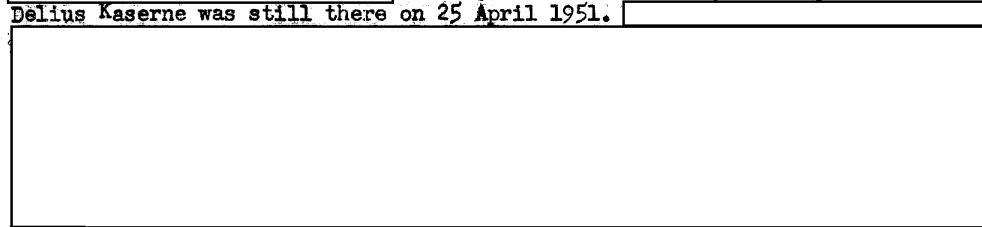
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* [Redacted] Comment. The information [Redacted] confirms that the units in the barracks installations on Nedlitzerstrasse were still in their quarters by the end of April 1951. It also confirms a previous report by [Redacted] stating that the artillery unit in the Delius Kaserne was still there on 25 April 1951.

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*** Comment. Information in paragraphs 3 - 12 confirms previous reports on elements of the 10th Gds Tank Div departing from the Satz Korn and Doeberitz railroad stations for Letzling Heath at the end of April 1951.

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