

25X1A CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~ **CONFIDENTIAL** REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

TOPIC PS Battalion in Lesna

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25X1X EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1C DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 5 July 1951

25X1A REFERENCES [REDACTED]

25X1A PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

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1. Prior to 4 May 1951, the PS battalion in Lesna (Schoenwald) (N 50/P 43) was subordinate to the PS brigade in Plana, which was commanded by Captain Gromadko, (fnu). Also subordinate to the brigade were an understrength reserve battalion in Plana which had about six trucks and several passenger cars, and another battalion in Halze (N 50/P 44). The headquarters of the PS brigade was located in the castle at Plana. *
2. The PS battalion was located in the castle at Lesna and commanded by Lieutenant Otibor. (fnu). It was organized into six companies, including a reserve company of about 50 soldiers in Lesna, the 11th Co of about 50 soldiers in Pavluv Studenec (Paulusbrunn) (N 50/P 44), the 12th Co south of the 11th Co in the Pavlova Hut (Paulushuette) area, the 13th Co of about 50 soldiers in Zlaty Potok (Goldbach) (N 50/P 33), the 14th Co in St. Pochr (Alt Pocher) (N 50/P 33), and the 15th Co. The units were armed with German model 98-M rifles, Czech models 25 and 26 (48-A and 48-B) submachine guns, and some light machine guns. The [REDACTED] Plana near Mar. Lazne. [REDACTED] did not know the meaning of the number, which was also on his military pass. **
3. The 12th PS Co had 48 soldiers equipped with small arms, 4 model 26 light machine guns, 1 passenger car, and 2 motorcycles. Some riding horses were to be issued to the unit. In January 1951, it was rumored that each company was to be brought up to 75 men and would be issued two heavy machine guns. About half of the men of the 12th PS Co were Czechs and the other half Slovaks. Green epaulets and dog's head insignia were put on the dress uniforms on 1 May 1951.
4. In December 1950, firing practice began near Plana. Rifles and machine guns were fired at 100 and 200 meters, and submachine guns at 50 and 100 meters. The troops also practiced with Skoda-type, egg-shaped hand grenades. The third record firing test was held at Lesna in April 1951. Eleven dogs were trained at the battalion. In January 1951 two EM of the 12th Co were detached to a drivers' course in Plana, and four EM to a signal course in Chodova Plana (N 50/P 55). In April 1951, two EM attended a medical course in Chodova Plana.
5. The 12th Co controlled a border sector of about 3 km, where soldiers were assigned either to patrol or stationary guard duty. Alarms were given by colored flares or by bursts of fire from submachine guns.

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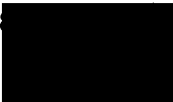
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25X1A + Comment. The PS brigade in Plana under the command of Captain Wromadko, (Tru), is confirmed. Units subordinate to the brigade include the reserve battalion in Plana and, probably the PS battalions in Dolni Zandov, **Halze**, Lesna, and Rozvadov. Battalions are probably no longer stationed in Marianske Lazne and Chodova Plana.

25X1A Comment. Numerical designations of PS companies are reported for the first time. It appears that the companies of a brigade have consecutive numerical designations. The PS battalion in Lesna is the 3d Bn of the PS brigade in Plana.

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