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is to be brought to completion.

The training programme for non-commissioned officers lasts three months, and is organized as special classes within the Bereitschaften, which are attended by 30 per cent. of the total non-commissioned complement at a time.

7. The cadre officers' training in the Bereitschaften is to be continued as heretofore, eight hours a week: Kommandoleiter are to be trained as battalion commanders and Abteilungsleiter as company commanders. No training objectives have yet been established for the advanced school at Kochstedt.
8. The future use of NVA effectives now in training is a closely guarded secret; it will be determined by the SCC in the light of the prevailing political situation as viewed by the Kremlin. Thus, it is not known whether the present personnel will complete in 1952 the second year of the new training programme or will be put through the whole two-year course, beginning on 1 January 1952; nor whether officer candidates now in school will remain there to complete the two-year training schedule or be released for active assignments at the end of the 1951 training cycle. It is certain, however, that all personnel joining the NVA from now on will be subject to the two-year training described above.
9. A reorganization of the NVA in 1951 is expected, but there are no definite indications as to the form it will take. The following rumors are current in the NVA:
  - a. There will be 24 additional Bereitschaften; source says this is impossible because of the lack of qualified officers.
  - b. Six Bereitschaften or intermediate staffs (Mischenstellen) will be activated.
  - c. There will be no increase in the number of Bereitschaften, although a personnel increase on a normal scale is possible. Six intermediate staff headquarters will be activated, each in control of four Bereitschaften.\*
10. Inspekteur John has stated that the development of the NVA has been retarded because the Russians still hope to prevent West German rearmament by propaganda and political methods.
11. The following personnel changes have occurred recently:
 

Inspekteur Julius Teigel (HA Polit-Kultur), has been dismissed from the NVA, and has also been expelled from the SED.

Inspekteur Sredski (deputy chief, HA Polit-Kultur), has been dismissed on criminal charges; he has been succeeded by Kommandeur Heinrich Dollwetz, who was chief of Polit-Kultur with the rank of Chefinspekteur in 1949, before he went to Russia for training.

Kommandeur Erwin Engelbrecht has been relieved of his position with the organizing committee for the World Youth Festival, and replaced by Kommandeur Brucker as of 6 August 1951. It is believed that Engelbrecht is now attending a training course in the USSR.
12. A campaign which had been launched by HA Polit-Kultur and Abt. Kader to induce personnel whose contractual time has expired to remain in the service was suddenly discontinued. Kommandeur Schützele of HA Polit-Kultur explained this on the ground that the methods adopted were not conducive to the strengthening of morale.
13. On 5 September 1951 Chefinspekteur Dr. Pohlmann, the chief of the medical branch of the NVA, requested the assistance of the HA Ausbildung in drawing up a theoretical training programme for 500 nurses, to start on 1 October and last 10 months. During the training period the nurses would not be members of the NVA, but would have contractual status.
14. The following special training courses have been initiated:
  - a. Beginning 1 August, for a duration of 17 days: heavy machine gun and heavy mortar platoon leaders and company commanders were to be trained in the use

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of their special weapons; location of the training, Kochstedt, Glöwen, and Feithain.

- b. Beginning 15 August, for a duration of four months: non-commissioned officers in Bereitschaften, to be trained as platoon leaders.
- 15. At a conference of commanding officers at Krichensee on 10 September there was a demonstration of a reinforced regiment fording a river against enemy resistance. This was executed by a reinforced Kommando, representing a battalion involved in the main effort. Assault boats were used in the exercise, a bridge was constructed, and underwater cables were laid.
- 16. Deterioration in the morale of the NVA is indicated by the fact that Stab III of Abt. Organisation under Inspekteur Göringer, which handles desertions and similar cases, is swamped with work.
- 17. NVA indoctrination currently echoes the latest SED propaganda line, directed primarily against reviving German imperialism. Hate propaganda against the Americans continues unabated. \*\*

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\*  Comment: This is the most generally accepted theory.

\*\*  Comment: The above report shows that there have been no major changes in the basic factors affecting the combat capabilities of the NVA. The methodical military training is continuing, as evidenced by the sending of officers to the USSR. On the other hand, there are no signs that a mass army is to be formed in the near future. The Russians are anxious, for the time being, to reserve full freedom of action in determining the rate of expansion, but meantime they are preparing the NVA for cadre functions if they decide to launch an outright remilitarization of East Germany.

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