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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

HELLOFAK 14

COUNTRY Soviet Occupied Europe and USSR

DATE DISTR. 1 October 1951

SUBJECT OB Situation of Soviet Ground Forces from Information Obtained from 1 August to 1 September 1951

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There were no discernible changes in the organization and strength of the Soviet Army units in the Soviet-occupied countries of Europe during the period covered by the report. No units arriving in, or departing from, the Soviet occupation areas were observed. The majority of the combat divisions continued unit training throughout August 1951. It is expected that, upon completion of the summer training program in October 1951, the Soviet units will have attained a maximum of combat efficiency. No reports received during the period covered by the report were indicative of preparations for war.

GERMANY.

Order of Battle.

1. Reports received between 1 August and 1 September 1951 indicated no changes in the disposition of the Soviet ground forces in Germany up to the middle of August 1951. 50X1-HUM

2. The following units and rear service installations in the Soviet Zone of Germany, location, and date of observation, were confirmed between 1 August and 1 September 1951:

a. GHQ Units of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GOGF).

56th Motor Trans Regt	JURIEDORF	25 July	50X1-HUM
25th RI. Brig	PHRENITZ	16 August	
An Arty Div	POTSDAM	9 August	
A Gun Arty Brig	POTSDAM	27 July	
2d Gds AAA Div	POTSDAM	31 July	
6th (?) Gds AAA Div	CHEMNITZ AUF area	3 August	
32d (?) AAA Div	FRANKFURT/Oder KUNSTRIN area	27 July	

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36th Pan Bridge Regt	ROSSLAU	29 July
53d Central Repair Shop	BERLIN-OBER-SCHOENHEIDE	1 August
54th Central Repair Shop	LEIPZIG-WURZEN	2 August
123d Tank Repair Shop	MUELLROSE KIRCHHOESER	10 August
800th Ration Supply Depot	SATZKORN	16 August
820th Ration Supply Depot	FRANKFURT/oder	11 August
Main Clothing Depot	BERNAU	11 August
Main Fuel Supply Depot	VELTEN	10 August
Main Fuel Supply Depot	DRESDEN	28 July
Main Ordnance Shop	JESSEN	2 August
A Repair Shop	WILDAU and KETSCHENDORF	11 August

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b. Eighth Guards Army.

Army Hq	WEIMAR	13 July
257th Motor Trans Bn	WEIMAR	18 July
Army Ration Supply Depot	ERFURT- MARBACH	10 August
Army Ration Supply Admin.	WEIMAR-ERFURT	31 July
Army Repair Shop	BURGSTAEDT	27 July
Army Fuel Supply Depot	MUENCHEN- BEITINGSDORF	26 July
Army Sig Depot	BURGSTAEDT	16 July
Hq 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	RUDOLSTADT	25 July
120th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	SAALFELD	3 July
15th (Gds?) Tank SP Regt	SAALFELD	14 July
Hq 20th Gds Mecz Div	JENA	31 July
Hq 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	NAUMBURG	July
172d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	GOTHA	18 July
Hq 21st Gds Mecz Div	HALLE	31 July
69th Gds Mecz Regt	LEIPZIG	19 July
70th Gds Mecz Regt	HALLE	9 August

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c. Third Shock Army.

Army Ordnance Depot	NOEHLIN	16 July
Army Fuel Supply Depot	MAGDEBURG	31 July
Hq 207th Mtz Rifle Div	STENDAL	31 July
64th Gds Mecz Regt	MAGDEBURG- HILLERSLEBEN	20 July
10th Gds RL Bn (Regt?)	SCHWERIN	8 July
Hq 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	SCHWERIN	31 July
74th Tank SP Regt	SCHWERIN	10 July
Hq 18th Mecz Div	PERLEBERG	31 July

d. First Guards Mechanized Army.

Army Fuel Supply Depot	DRESDEN	29 July
Army Ration Supply Depot	DRESDEN	24 July
6th Mtrcl Bn	DRESDEN	9 August
4th Gds AAA Div	KOENIGSBRUECK- DRESDEN area	3 July
Hq 8th Gds Mecz Div	GRITZA	18 July
Hq 9th Tank Div	RIESA	18 July

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e. Second Guards Mechanized Army

31st AAA Div	SCHONWALDE	16 August
An AT Arty Brig	ORANIENBURG	25 July
An RL Regt	ORANIENBURG	25 July
Army Fuel Supply Depot	FURSTENBERG	26 July
Hq 9th Gds Tank Div	NEUSTRELITZ	2 August
An Arty Regt (Bn?) of the 9th Gds Tank Div	NEUSTRELITZ	29 July
Hq 12th Gds Tank Div	NEURUPPIN	18 July
48th Gds Tank Regt	NEURUPPIN	13 June
Hq 1st Mecz Div	DOEBERITZ	16 August
72d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	DOEBERITZ	9 August

f. Third Guards Mechanized Army.

Hq AAA Div	LUCKENWALDE	7 July
91st Gds RL Regt	TREBEN	3 August

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Hq 14th Gds Mecz Div	JUSTERBOG	21 July	
49th Gds Mecz Regt	JUSTERBOG	21 July	
10th Tank Regt	JUSTERBOG	21 July	
Hq 6th Gds Tank Div	WITTENBERG	19 July	
Hq 7th Gds Tank Div	ROSSLAU	26 June	
91st Tank Regt	LUEBDEM	28 July	
<u>g. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army.</u>			
51st (?) Mtrcl Regt of the Army	EDERSWALDE	27 July	
12th Mobile Arty Shop	KOTSCHENDORF	17 July	50X1-HUM
35th Gds Mecz Regt	BERNAU	25 July	
676th How Arty Regt	BERNAU	25 July	
34th Tank Eng Bn	BERNAU	25 July	
Hq 7th Gds Mecz Div	FUERSTENWALDE	11 August	
147th Gds Sig Bn of the 7th Gds Mecz Div	FUERSTENWALDE	1951	
111th Tank Regt	ORANIENBURG	28 July	
162d Tank Regt	ORANIENBURG	28 July	
175th Tank Regt	PIRENZLAU	28 July	
83d Gds Hv Tank S ² Regt	PIRENZLAU	28 July	
Hq 10th Gds Tank Div	KRAEFNITZ	15 July	

Movements.

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3. [] the unidentified engineer regiment of the GOPG from the southern section of the Delius Kaserne, POTSDAM, has been reassigned to the BERNEBURG military post. [] The quarters in the Delius Kaserne which were vacated by the regiment were reoccupied at the end of July by a rear unit of the unidentified artillery brigade of the unidentified artillery division, POTSDAM, which had been stationed in the barracks installation at WILDPARK-WEST up to that time. The majority of the components of the artillery brigade are not expected to move into the Delius Kaserne before the completion of the training period at the troop training grounds in the fall of this year.
4. There have been indications from EDERSWALDE that the Hq Fourth Gds Mecz Army, along with all its headquarters elements and officers' dependents, is going to be moved from its quarters in the western sector of the city to a restricted area north of Freienwalder Strasse in the fall of this year.

Field Exercises and Training.

5. Division Training.

Up to mid-August, there have been no discernible changes in the occupation of nine large troop training grounds in the Soviet Zone of Germany, at which

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seventeen combat divisions have been assembled for training since April and May 1951. The training of the troops has been proceeding according to schedule. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] the training at battalion level was generally concluded about late July or early August, so that the divisions could start training at regimental level thereafter. Since the troop training grounds did not offer sufficient space for this type of training, the units generally moved to neighboring areas suitable for these exercises. During the reported period, the troops again conducted night training, road marches, and weapons training while wearing gas masks. Engineer training on both sides of the Elbe River between DESSAU and WITTENBERG continued at its previous level in late July and the first half of August. Engineer troops practiced primarily in the STENDAL-JERICHOV, BITTKAU-POLTE, ROSSLAU-AKEN area, and in the area east of WITTENBERG. There have not been definite indications as to preparations for large-scale fall maneuvers. Last year, these preparations began about 1 October; the first indications becoming discernible after about 20 September in the construction of makeshift unloading ramps for tanks, concentration of rolling stock, and arrival of rear units from the military posts. The 1951 maneuver areas have not been determined, but it is possible that, just as in 1949 and 1950, these fall maneuvers will again be held in the area northeast of the Thuringian Woods in the MAGDEBURG-BELZIG-DESSAU area and north of DRESDEN. In detail, the following information has been obtained concerning the present occupation of troop training grounds and activities of units there during the period from 1 August to 1 September 1951:

a. Eighth Guards Army Area.

OHDRUF and KINDEL:

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Components of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps and of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps were confirmed [redacted] at the OHDRUF and KINDEL troop training grounds respectively until the middle of August. Vehicles of the headquarters units of the Eighth Gds Army were observed in both training area. Reports received have not been specific on the training activities of the units there. Engineer units of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps were entrained at PETRIRODA for shipment to DESSAU about 1 August.

BAD KOESEN:

During the first half of August, the camp at BAD KOESEN was occupied by engineer units of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, the Eighth Gds Army, and the 36th Pan Bridge Regt of the GONG in varying strengths up to 1,000 men. The troops practiced the construction of ferries and bridges, the operation of smoke generators, and the laying and removal of mines. After mid-July, units from the camp were rotated to the DESSAU-AKEN area for short training cycles. See also paragraph 6d.

b. Third Shock Army Area.

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LETZLING HEATH:

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The 7th and 10th Gds Tank Divs, the 19th Gds Mecz Div, the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, and headquarters units of the Third Shock Army were still confirmed at the camps in the woods at LETZLING HEATH, in the WEISSE-WARTHE Forest east of the MAGDEBURG-STENDAL railroad line, and at the nearby military posts of HILDESLIEDEN, STENDAL, and GARDLEGEN up to the middle of August. [redacted]

[redacted] it is believed that the detachment of units from other army areas to LETZLING HEATH for special training still continued in mid-August. [redacted]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A large camp, which was not observed last year, was identified in the area north-east of BRIEST in the WEISSEWARTHE Forest in mid-August 1951. Numerous caterpillar tracks indicated the presence of tank units. The camp may be the principal billeting area of the 10th Gds Tank Div, since so far only individual vehicles of this division have been observed in the woods of LETZLING HPATH west of the MAGDEBURG-STENDAL railroad line. Large-scale field exercises were conducted only by components of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div in the northern portion of the troop training grounds and in the TANGERHUEDE-JERICHOW area, where component units of the 6th Army Div and air force units also participated.

BITTKAU:

The camp in the woods between BITTKAU and COBBEL was still occupied by engineer units of the Third Shock Army in mid-August. A headquarters engineer unit of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army with 60 motor vehicles was observed for the first time near POLTE on the Elbe River on 9 August. The unit probably left its army area for the JERICHOW area in mid-July and extended its river exercises as far as the POLTE area.

c. First Guards Mechanized Army Area.

Information from the KOENIGSBRUECK troop training grounds is not sufficient to confirm the divisions of the First Gds Mecz Army there. Most of the army's components were probably still at KOENIGSBRUECK in late July because only housekeeping and training units were observed at the military posts in the army area at that time. Components of the 6th (?) Gds AAA Div of the GDFG have been rotated from their billeting area around CHMENITZ to the KOENIGSBRUECK troop training grounds since the end of May 1951. The last such shipment was observed proceeding from SCHMENITZ to CHMENITZ on 28 August.

[REDACTED] Motor convoys of components of the 9th Tank Div observed between KOENIGSBRUECK and ZEITHAIN during July indicate that the ZEITHAIN troop training grounds was also temporarily used by this division for training.

d. Second Guards Mechanized Army Area.

The 18th Mecz Div, which up to mid-August was still at the WITTSTOCK troop training grounds, conducted road marches at regimental level in late July and early August. These movements extended as far as the vicinity of NEURUPPIN and PRITZALK. The majority of the components of the 9th and 12th Gds Tank Divs and the 1st Mecz Div remained at their posts up to mid-August. Artillery, AT artillery, and rocket launcher components of the two tank divisions have been rotating to the JUETTERBOG area for short training cycles. The same was observed with reference to the army headquarters artillery units from ORANIENBURG. Elements of engineer units which moved from the army area to the Elbe River in the JERICHOW area in mid-July returned in early August.

e. Third Guards Mechanized Army Area.**WERD-R-MARKENDORF:**

In mid-August 1951, Camp WERDER still quartered components of the 6th Gds Tank Div from WITTENBERG and JUETTERBOG-ALTES LAGER. The training schedule included night exercises and long marches using gas masks. Increased maintenance work on vehicles and equipment indicated preparations for large-scale field exercises.

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WEISSWASSER:

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The arrival of 33 tanks in Camp NOCHTEN, via the WEISSWASSER railroad station, indicated that the 9th Mecz Div was also preparing for fall maneuvers.

Except for a large-scale tank firing demonstration in mid-July, which was witnessed by numerous officers, the training activities conducted there have not been determined. Small groups of officer and NCO replacements arrived from the military posts.

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WITTENBERG Area:

elements of the engineer battalions of the 14th Gds Mecz Div and the 9th Mecz Div, and army headquarters engineer units, participated in engineer exercises held on the Elbe River east of WITTENBERG during the second half of July and in early August. These units may have returned to their military posts on trains reportedly proceeding from WITTENBERG to SPERENBERG and JUTERBOG in mid-August.

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ANNABURG Area:

Tank and artillery troops practiced in the ANNABURG-JESSEN area in mid-August 1951. The units were quartered in a large camp at the western edge of the GLUECKSBURG Forest.

Since heavy weapons were also observed, it is possible that components of the 14th Gds Mecz Div also participated in these exercises; they frequently practiced in the GLUECKSBURG Forest during previous summers.

f. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army Area.

TEMPLIN:

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Components of the 25th Tank Div, the 6th Gds Mecz Div, and headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army, which have been assembled in the TEMPLIN training area since the end of April, were still confirmed there up to about 20 August. Engineer components of the army, which moved to the Elbe River in the JERICHOV area in mid-July, returned to TEMPLIN in early August.

It is believed, however, that field exercises at regimental level were started in this training area in August, since it may be assumed that training is conducted along a uniform schedule in all army area.

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LIEBEROSE:

The training schedule of those units included road marches, firing practice, alert and night exercises. Elements of the 122d (?) Gds Engr Bn of the 7th Gds Mecz Div were detrained at the LIEBEROSE railroad station on 2 August. The battalion may have participated in the engineer exercises conducted by the army on the Elbe River in the JERICHOV area during the second half of July.

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6. Special Exercises.

- a. In mid-August, most of the artillery units of the IV Arty Corps were again confirmed at the ALTENGRABOW troop training grounds. The 18th (?) Hw How Arty Brig from BRANDENBURG moved to ALTENGRABOW with its trained personnel in late July. The 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig in POTSDAM had not made any preparations for movement to ALTENGRABOW by mid-August. It reportedly was to move to ALTENGRABOW in early August. Since the ALTENGRABOW troop training grounds was used for special firing practice by artillery and AAA units from all army areas in the summer of 1951, as it was last year, vehicles of the following units appeared there in addition to vehicles of the IV Arty Corps during the reported period:

GOPG. 2d Gds AAA Div and 6th (?) Gds AAA Div

Eighth Gds Army. 43d (Gds) Gun Arty Brig, headquarters units of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div

Third Shock Army. 44th Gun Arty Brig, 3d (?) Gds AT Arty Brig (elements left on 24 July), 19th Gds Mecz Div (AAA unit), 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div

First Gds Mecz Army. 8th Gds Mecz Div

Second Gds Mecz Army. 1st Mecz Div (tank unit), 12th Gds Tank Div (artillery unit), 31st AAA Div

Third Gds Mecz Army. 7th Gds Tank Div

Fourth Gds Mecz Army. 10th Gds Tank Div and army headquarters units.

Up to late July, firing was practiced only during the day. After a large-scale demonstration on 1 and 2 August, which involved all units at ALTENGRABOW at that time and which was witnessed by high-ranking officers, there was shift to night training. The units of the 3d (?) Gds AT Arty Brig previously stationed in BERNBURG reportedly are going to remain in ALTENGRABOW after the conclusion of their summer training.

- b. Components of the 2d Gds AAA Div, the 31st AAA Div, the two AAA divisions of the Third and Fourth Gds Mecz Armies, and the 359th Gds AAA Regt of the 10th Gds Tank Div were at the MUSTROW AAA range in mid-August. The presence there of units of other divisions, except the 6th (?) Gds AAA Div of the GOPG which has been training in KOFNIGSBRUECK since late May, appears probable on the basis of reports on rail movements.
- c. The field exercises by engineer units of the Second and Fourth Gds Mecz Armies on both sides of the Elbe River which were started in the TANGERMUNDE-JERICHOV area in the middle of July seemed to have been completed about 1 August, since several of these units were observed returning to their army areas.
- d. Engineer components of the Eighth Gds Army started training courses in the handling of heavy bridge-building equipment in the AKEN-ROSSLAU area in mid-July and were continuing this training on 20 August. The units rotated in 14-day cycles from BAD KOESEN and the OBERHUF area. Besides the engineer units of the Eighth Gds Army, elements of the two engineer regiments of the GOPG also participated in these courses. The units were quartered in camps located in the area between GROSS ALBARD and the Elbe River and the area southeast of ROSSLAU. The unidentified engineer battalion of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps from MAULEBURG is

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equipped with model TMP military bridge equipment which is adequate for bridges with load capacities of from 16 to 96 tons. This indicates that this corps engineer battalion is in a position to build a 60-ton bridge for JS tanks 180 meters long.

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- c. [redacted] the Soviet units, allegedly including tank units, which had assembled in the area west of GOERLITZ left for an undetermined destination on 9 August. It has not been determined whether these were the troops that reportedly crossed the Neisse River near GOERLITZ westwards in early July. [redacted]

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Personnel.

7. The only incoming shipments of personnel observed during the reported period were two trains of 50 cars each which passed through FRANKFURT/Oder on 22 and 23 July 1951, and 7 boxcars which crossed the Oder River at FORST on 7 August. [redacted] no Soviet troop shipments arrived in the Soviet Zone of Germany via KUESTRIN, FRANKFURT/Oder or GUBEN during the period from late July to 17 August. 50X1-HUM
8. Leave traffic continued as usual up to 20 August. Two pairs of trains which carried up to 450 men in each direction daily operated on the FRANKFURT/Oder-BREST-LITOVSK line. During the period from 1 to 5 August, the second train running from BREST LITOVSK to FRANKFURT/Oder carried participants to the World Youth Festivals in BERLIN. 50X1-HUM

Transportation.

11. During the reported period the volume of traffic handled by the Soviet railroad system increased considerably due to the additional traffic resulting from the World Youth Festival in BERLIN. In connection with this festival, approximately 750 extra trains were run without major incidents. However, the effect of this extra burden on commercial traffic was reflected in the increased increase in the backlog of undischarged cars from a total of 987 on 3 August to 2014 on 5 August. By 22 August, the Soviet Zone Railroads succeeded in reducing this peak to a total of 1218 cars.

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12. Coal stocks as of 22 August 1951 (in metric tons):

Hard coal 130,548

Raw brown coal: 23,390

Brown coal briquettes: 150,533

Coke: 2,161

Coal dust: 477

Total 307,109

These stocks are adequate for about 16 days' operations. In previous months, coal stocks were adequate for 13 days' operations.

13. On 22 August, the number of railroad cars in operation totaled 80,103, thus reaching the long-standing goal of 80,000 cars for the first time.

14. On 1 July 1951, stocks of steam locomotives owned by the Soviet Zone Railroads were as follows:

Park of operational locomotives: 4,771 (3,168 serviceable)

Number of damaged locomotives: 743

Total: 5,514

Not included in these figures are column locomotives and foreign-owned locomotives. The total of locomotives available in the Soviet Zone of Germany has decreased by 17 locomotives compared with the status of 31 May 1951. The 17 locomotives have probably been scrapped.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.General.

15. There have been no changes in the disposition of Soviet Army units stationed in the Soviet Zone of Austria and in Hungary up to the middle of August 1951. Latest information indicates that the following divisions are assigned to the Hq Central Group of Forces in BADEN near VIENNA:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Area</u>
13th Gds Mecz Div	VIENNA and south of it
95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	ST. POELTEN, MAUER-OEHLING, URFABR, DONLERSBETH, EISENSTADT;
23d AAA Div	KORNREUBURG, STOCKERAU;
17th Gds Mecz Div	Northwest portion of Hungary;
2d Gds Mecz Div	Southeast of BUDAPEST;
? No AAA Div	In Hungary, area unknown;

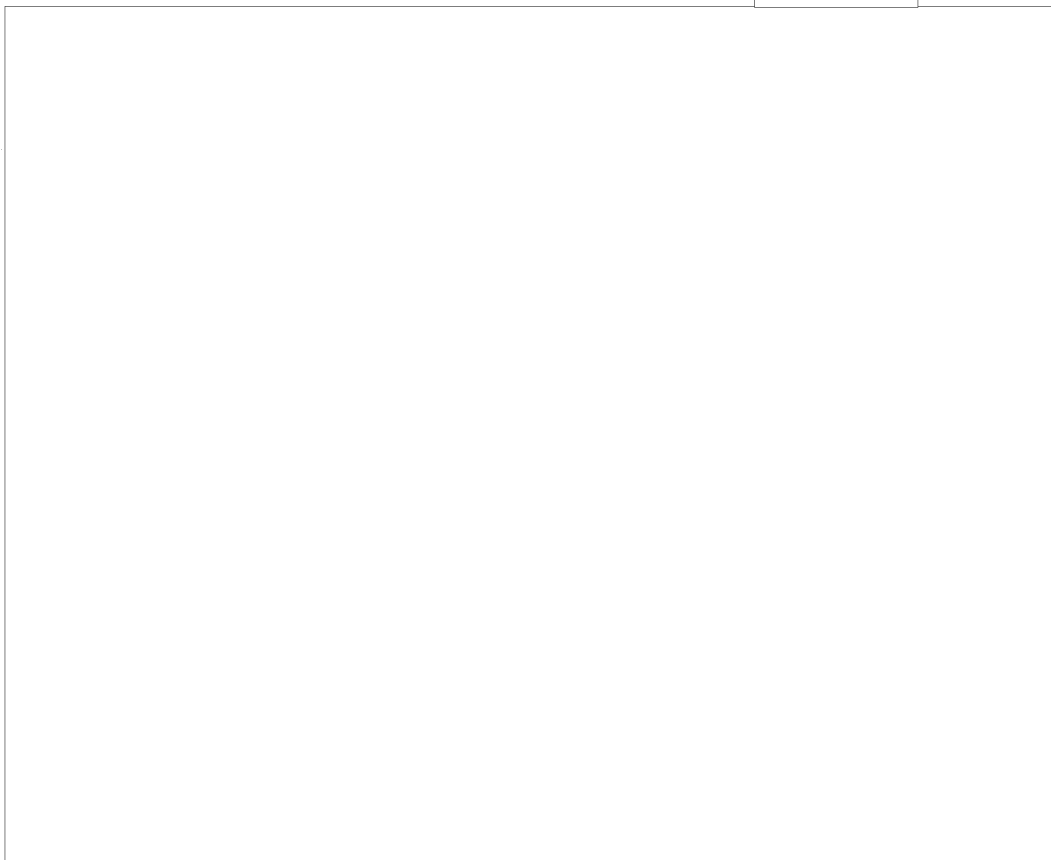
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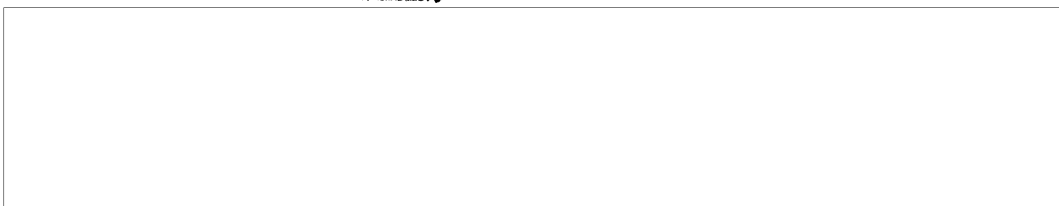


Movement.

17. The Hq 13th Gds Mecz Div which completely vacated its previous quarters on Tolbuchinstrasse, VIENNA, in late July 1951, probably moved to the Hyrtl Orphanage in MOEDLING.

Training.

18. Firing practice at the AP TLON AAA range was concluded on 10 August after a large-scale exercise in the APETLON-WALLERN-St. ANDRAE area. On 11 and 12 August the remaining units left on five trains. A rear detail of a unit of the 23d AAA Div remained in the camp.
19. Traffic in the area of the DOELLERSHEIM troop training grounds continued to be slight during the period from 20 July to 22 August. As before, most of the motor vehicles observed at the GOEFFRITZ and ALLENTSBERG rail-road stations belonged to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, and some to the 13th Gds Mecz Div and HQ units. During the reported period, the 150th Tank Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div may have been at the troop training grounds since no tanks were observed at the home station of the regiment at Camp SPRATZMIN near St. POELTEN.



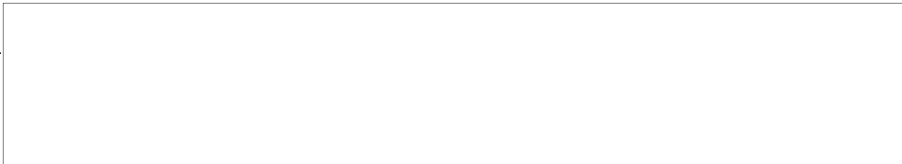
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Miscellaneous.

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21. [redacted] no
Soviet troops were stationed in SZEGED, HODIEZO VASARHELY, KISKUNFELEGY-
HAZA, BEKESCSABA, or KISKUNHAJSA.

POLAND.

22. A resettler confirmed that Soviet troops evacuated Camp STRANS in May 1948 and moved to Camp NEUHAMMER. Components of the 20th Tank Div which are believed to have been in Camp NEUHAMMER after this change included the 76th Gds Hv Tank S¹ Regt, the 1711th AAA Regt, the 496th How Bn, the 206th Engr Bn, the 406th or 409th RL Bn, and the 70th Tank Tng Bn.

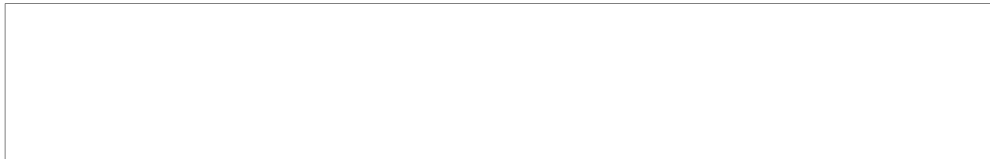
23. Soviet Army units were quartered in a barracks installation in SPROTTAU in February 1951. This information has not been confirmed to date. The presence of Soviet troops in NEUSTETTIN was confirmed up to December 1950. A Soviet headquarters was allegedly also stationed there.

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24. Units confirmed in the Carpathian MD for the first time since the end of World War II [redacted] included the 168th Rifle Regt, [redacted] of the 24th Rifle Div in the LVOV Oblast; and the 195th Gds Rifle Regt, [redacted], of the 66th Gds Rifle Div in CHERNOVITS.

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