

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
 SUBJECT New Screening of Active and Reserve Officers in the Czechoslovak Army

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1. In the beginning of July 1951 a confidential meeting of all chairmen of the District and Local National Committees was held in Ceske Budejovice (C49/Q96). As a result of the meeting, a new screening of active and reserve officers of the Czechoslovak Army is now under way. The purpose of this action is to determine the reliability of the officers and to decide what their permanent assignments should be.
2. Reserve officers (up to the age of 60) are called up individually to their District Military Commands by "special invitation". The call-up notice is restricted and may be shown only to authorized military and security personnel. Source saw three such cards. One was signed by a Maj. Masa. Screened reserve officers are issued new identification cards bearing their photographs. The new documents have green covers.
3. Active officers are screened within their units in the presence of the DOZ officer and the chairman of the unit's KSC organization. If an officer is found to be completely reliable, he is classified 25 A and may be assigned to any post including the border areas. An officer who is only partially reliable is classified 25 B and should be transferred to the interior. Those officers who are found to be unreliable are stripped of their rank and are sent to labor camps. Screened active officers receive new identification documents bearing their photographs. The new documents have red covers. The outcome of the screening is recorded in these documents.
4. Local National Committees are required to keep files on soldiers and officers in their respective villages and must report on their behavior and their reliability towards the "People's Democracy".
5. In November 1950 young reservists were urged to report to active duty and various promises of promotion were made to make the proposition attractive. However, the call

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- 2 -

received little response. In April 1951 and again in July, the plea for reservists to sign up for active service was made again and was accompanied by considerable pressure especially on the younger reservists. In some cases, where officers refused to respond to the appeal, they were advised that if they did not report to active duty voluntarily, they would be deprived of their rank and sent to labor camps. As a result of such threats, most of the officers who were asked to join the active service did so, with the exception of those who were exempted by the KSC as being essential to their jobs.

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