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SECURITY INFORMATION

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CONFIDENTIAL REPORT NUMBER

TOPIC Troops and Military Installations in the Beuthen-Hindenburg-Gleiwitz Area.

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REMARKS

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1. Prior to May 1951, numerous Polish military labor units were observed working in the mining area of Beuthen (Q 51/Y 58) - Hindenburg (Q 51/Y 47). The troops were quartered in several hutments, including three at Hindenburg one of which was located on the northeastern edge of the city, about 800 meters south of the Ludwigsglueck Pit, on the east side of the road to Klausberg (Q 51/Y 48); one was southeast of the city, on the north side of the road to Katowice (Q 51/Y 57), and one was near the Delbrueck Pits northeast of the railroad station. There was one hutment in Beuthen, east of the Karsten-Zentrum Pit, on the road to Brzeziny (Q 51/Y 58); one near Bobrk (Q 51/Y 47); one in Miechowitz (Q 51/Y 48) near the Preussen Pit; and one in Klausberg near the Abwehr Pit. The labor units were marched to work in close order. Units of 600 to 700 men were repeatedly seen. The soldiers usually wore denim uniforms and, in winter, soiled padded jackets. Officers wore Polish Army uniforms with red cap bands. The personnel of the labor units were between 23 and 26 years of age. Extremely young men were not seen. Arms training was confined to drill with small infantry arms. Poles stated, that, in order to increase coal-mining, the Polish Labor Service had been employed in the pits but had failed to fill the quotas set. \*
  2. Prior to May 1951, the former Polizei Kaserne on the west side of Stalinstrasse, formerly Adolf Hitlerstrasse, in the southern sector of Hindenburg, quartered Polish units which source referred to as Militia. The barracks installation was in good condition. Another Militia office and the UB (Security Police) headquarters were located in the former city police headquarters. The former town hall housed the municipal administration and a branch office of the military district headquarters in Gleiwitz (Q 51/Y 37).
  3. Prior to May 1951, Polish soldiers were seen in the former home for disabled persons on the northern edge of Beuthen. They were equipped with small infantry arms and had no motor vehicles. Units of company strength were occasionally seen moving out for field training.
  4. Prior to early 1951, Polish soldiers wearing caps with green bands were seen in the old barracks installation on Raudenerstrasse in Gleiwitz. The barracks

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installation on the road to Klueschau (Q 51/Y 28) appeared to be almost vacant. Only a few soldiers wearing caps with red bands were seen there. \*\*

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\* **Comment.** Under the Universal Military Service Law of 4 February 1950, able-bodied draftees, who cannot be absorbed by regular units, may be assigned to substitute service. Personnel in substitute service are assigned to labor and receive only basic military training. The labor units in the Upper-Silesian mining area, mentioned in the present report, undoubtedly are units of this category.

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\*\* **Comment.** Polish army soldiers were reported to have been quartered in the former Ulanen Kaserne on ul. Rudzka, formerly Raudenerstrasse, in November 1950. **Comment.** The caps with green bands, mentioned in the present report, are indicative of a WOP (Border Guard) unit. According to a report of 1949, the headquarters of a WOP brigade and a WOP battalion are carried in Gleiwitz.

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