

COUNTRY: Germany (Soviet Zone) INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC: Soviet Troops in Perleberg 25X1

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REMARKS:



- 25X1 1. In early December 1951, Colonel Barabash (fnu) [ ] was identified as the commanding officer in the Artillerie Kaserne 25X1 on Lindenstrasse, Perleberg (M 54/T 70). He had succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Smyrnov (fnu) who left for reassignment. Principal weapons observed in the billeting area daily from 2 to 8 December included: several T-34/35 and JS-3 tanks; model Ba-64 armored reconnaissance cars [ ] about 25 x 76-mm model ZIS-3 field guns and an undetermined number of 120-mm mortars. [ ] Although an engineer unit of two or three companies, with Major Ieposhkin (fnu) as its administrative officer, was quartered in the Artillerie Kaserne, Perleberg, up to the summer of 1951, it did not return to the Artillerie Kaserne upon completion of the summer maneuvers, but moved to Ludwigslust (M 54/T 53). \*
- 25X1 2. Officers identified in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, Perleberg, in early December included: General Inakurin (fnu); Lieutenant Colonel Anariyev (fnu), chief of staff; Lieutenant Colonel Pichonkin (fnu); Lieutenant Colonel Drapachenko (fnu) who succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Pivovarov (fnu) upon his departure to the U.S.S.R. for reassignment; and Majors Zorokin (fnu), Zachko (fnu), Babenko (fnu) and Vasiliev (fnu). It was said that the artillery or AT artillery unit under the command of Major Vasiliev would soon be transferred to Ludwigslust. Source did not hear that a tank unit would be transferred. [ ] was identified in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne in early December.
- 25X1 3. The military post hospital on Bayer Teich, whose administrative officer was Captain Kleshin (fnu), was again occupied by troops in mid-November instead of being returned to the municipal administration.
- 25X1 4. On 4 December, [ ] the Soviet telephone exchange, which was located at 61 Reetzerstrasse and guarded by soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia, was subordinate to a signal unit in Schwerin.
- 25X1 5. The Artillerie Kaserne on Lindenstrasse was only partly lighted on the evening of 4 December. Almost no training activity had been noticed in the billeting area on that day. [ ]

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6. The quarters of the Fliegerhorst Kaserne were about 90 percent lighted on the evenings between 28 November and 4 December.

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7. On 23 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity by troops, most of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets and a few, black-bordered black epaulets. Sixty soldiers were seen practicing with four T-34/85 tanks in the barracks yard. Two T-34/76 tanks and four model 42 ZIS-3 guns of 76-mm were parked in the yard. Only troops with red-bordered black epaulets and none with black-bordered black epaulets were seen in the billeting area on 30 November. A unit of about 50 men with red-bordered black epaulets left the installation toward the town. About 40 trucks were seen through the open doors of the garages.

8. On 29 November, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne was occupied to capacity by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Eighteen T-34/85 tanks were noticed at the airfield.

\* Comment. The 348th Engr Bn of the 18th Hecz Div, formerly stationed in Perleberg, was previously confirmed in Ludwigslust until mid-November 1951. Major Lepeshkin (fnu) has been carried as the battalion's deputy commander to date.

\*\* Comment. The information on the occupation of the Perleberg military post furnishes no new clues as to the identity of the units there.

The 25 guns of 76.2-mm, mentioned in the present report, probably included some 57-mm AT guns. The observation of JS-3 tanks in the Artillerie Kaserne cannot be accounted for because the tank battalion of the 58th Hecz Regt of the 18th Hecz Div, which is carried there among other units, has T-34s under the T/E. confirms the 58th Hecz Regt in Perleberg until the beginning of 1951. Its commanding officer is believed to be Colonel Barabash (fnu) who has been reported to be only the commanding officer of the Artillerie Kaserne to date. Lieutenant Colonel Shichenko (fnu), rather than the unknown Lieutenant Colonel Smyrnov (fnu), is carried as the predecessor of Colonel Barabash. confirms the Hq 18th Hecz Regt in Perleberg until early December 1951. General Inakurin (fnu) is probably Major General A.N. Inauri, commanding general of the 18th Hecz Div, who is known from a press dispatch Colonel Aranyev (fnu) is known as Inauri's chief of staff. With the exception of Lieutenant Colonel Drapachenko (fnu) and Major Babenko (fnu), all of the officers identified in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne are known

identified Major Vasil'yev (fnu) as the commanding officer of a tank unit which allegedly moved to Ludwigslust. Captain Kleshin (fnu) is probably the Major of the same name who was identified with the headquarters in Perleberg in March 1951.

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