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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Husi Artillery Regiment, named after the town of Husi which is near the border of the USSR in Moldavia, conducted maneuvers in August and September of 1950. The Regiment's strength was about 200, of which 150 were enlisted men, 25 were operational officers and 25 were political officers. Each operational officer was attended by a political officer. The Regiment was commanded by a lieutenant colonel and consisted of two mortar "divisions" (one commanded by a reservist major and the other by a captain) and another unit formerly known as Trenul de Lupta (combat train) whose name was changed to Spatele (Rear). The Spatele was in charge of the Regiment's supplies. Each mortar "division" consisted of four batteries; each battery had two sections; each section had three groups, one for each mortar. During the maneuvers only 12 mortars, and 12 trucks, were actually in use, though the Regiment was authorized 48 mortars and 48 trucks. [] other mortars were in storage, though not used.

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2. Another Artillery Regiment was stationed in Husi at this time and was also called the Husi Artillery Regiment.
3. The mortars were manufactured at Resita and were known as Brand Mortars, 1942 model, 114 caliber. The mortar base was mounted on two wheels equipped with rubber tires. The sight used was known as a colimator and had no lens. Portable compass goniometers were also used; these were of Soviet manufacture, after [] the "Rimalhaud model". Since the goniometers were graduated in "sixty four thousandths", conversion calculations between the two instruments were difficult, especially so for the relatively untrained officers on maneuvers. Some of these officers had never seen a slide rule. The Brand mortar had a theoretical range of 6,000 meters, an effective range of 3,000 to 5,000 meters. During maneuvers they were normally used at a range of 3,000 to 3,500 meters, using three or four explosive cartridges on each shell. Each mortar was serviced by a sergeant and six men.
4. Soviet officers attended the maneuvers, which lasted for two weeks. Such inspections by the Soviets was a normal part of the military training.

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