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Approved For Release 2006/03/03 : CIA-RDP82-00457R010800150004-6

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 3 March 1952

SUBJECT MVD and MGB Organization
25X1

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO

25X1

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1. An article by Colonel G. Belykh on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the activation of the Soviet Border Guard Troops on 15 February 1921, which was carried by the Za Chest Rodiny on 12 February 1951, contained the following passage: "On the 30th anniversary of the Border Guard Troops of the Ministry for State Security (MGB), the soldiers assure the Bolshevik Party, the Soviet Government, and the great Teacher Comrade Stalin, of their willingness always to guard the borders of our fatherland." *
2. A decree on the institution of the Medal for Distinguished Service in the Preservation of Public Order was published in the bulletin of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. on 16 November 1950. Paragraph 1 and 2 of the pertaining statute, which was published in Moscow on 1 November 1950, read as follows:

Paragraph 1: The medal is awarded to officers, sergeants, soldiers, and other members of the organizations of the Militia of State Security (MGB) of the U.S.S.R. for heroic achievements in the fight against criminal offenses and in the preservation of public order in the country.

Paragraph 2: The medal is awarded by the Minister for State Security (MGB) in the name of the Supreme Soviet. *
3. Several personalities were cited by the Radianska Ukraina of 13 August 1950 as having been awarded, in Kiev on 12 August 1950, the Distinguished Service Medal for many years of service with State Security organizations and with the troops and organizations of the Ministry of the Interior (MVD). **

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Comment. The Border Guard Troops were activated as Cheka Border Guard Troops by Dzerzhinski in 1921. Then the Cheka was successively redesignated GPU, NKVD, and MVD, the Border Guard Troops remained under the control of the respective ministries. This assignment was repeatedly confirmed in World War II, although the GUGB was reorganized under an independent people's commissariat (NKGB) as early as 1943. The redesignation of the NKGB into the MGB in 1946 was apparently followed by changes in the subordination of the Security Troops. Soviet press reports since 1948 have contained several indications of the existence of both MVD Troops and MGB Troops. Soviet deserters in 1949 stated that there were MGB Troops who protected the internal

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Document No. 4
 No Change in Class.
 Declassified
 Class. Changed To: TS S (C)
 Auth.: HR 70-2
 Date: 9 SEP 1978

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25X1 security of the U.S.S.R. [redacted] The two newspaper items described in the present report now indicate that the Militia in the U.S.S.R. and the Border Guard Troops are assigned to the MGB, and thus confirm the hypothesis, in the reference report, that all Soviet Security Troops (Border Guard Troops) in the Soviet Zone of Germany are under the control of the MGB. The newspaper items described in the present report are contradicted by a broadcast from Khabarovsk which, on 27 January 1951, mentioned the chief of the Administration of the Redbanner Border Guard Troops of the MVD in the Khabarovsk Krai. However, since reports on such broadcasts are subject to error, the broadcast information is given less credence than the newspaper reports. There is still, however, the possibility, unlikely though it may be, that Border Guard Troops in specific portions of the U.S.S.R. may still be under the jurisdiction of the MVD. It is now fairly definitely believed that the Border Guard Troops are under the control of the MGB. Assuming that all troops with green epaulets in the Soviet Zone of Germany are Border Guard Troops, it would be appropriate henceforth to refer to these troops as MGB Troops.

25X1A *** [redacted] Comment. A logical consequence of the above inference could be the conclusion that the MVD has no longer troops of its own, but only administrative agencies. This, however, is refuted by the newspaper item described in the present report which mentions MVD Troops. Since the Militia and the Border Guard Troops are assigned to the MGB, it is believed that the MVD is now controlling only the so-called Internal Security Troops in the U.S.S.R., whose missions include the protection of installations of national importance and the guarding of the so-called corrective labor camps. Such troops were also assigned to guard duty in PW camps during recent years.

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