

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC Volkspolizei Dienststelle 1213 in Prenzlau 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

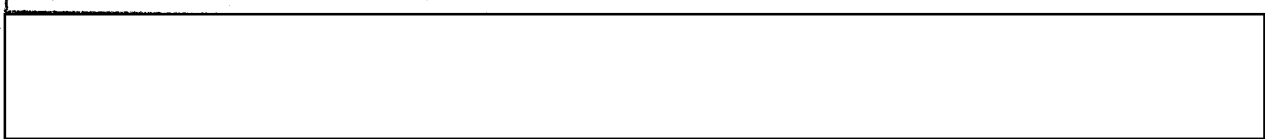
DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

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REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS



1. Prior to 31 December 1951, Volkspolizei Dienststelle (VPD) 1213 was stationed in Prenzlau, with the 1st, 2d and 3d Kommandos being located in the Nachrichten Kasern on Alsenstrasse; and the VPD headquarters, the 4th Kommando and the 7 Sonderabteilungen, in the Fliegerhorst. The unit totaled about 1,500 police and was organized as a standard-type VPD.

2. The weapons of the VPD included: medium and heavy mortars of German and Soviet origin, Soviet 76.2-mm AT guns, German 88-mm A. guns, SP guns, Soviet light and heavy field howitzers, 1 German model 18 heavy field howitzer, T-34 tanks, armored reconnaissance cars and ammunition carriers of British origin.

3. The following key officers of the VPD were identified:

<u>Rank and Name.</u>	<u>Appointment.</u>
VP Kommandeur von Witzleben (fnu)	Commanding officer
VP Oberrat Suessmilch (fnu)	Deputy commander and PK officer
VP Rat Mehwald (fnu)	Head of the Party Control Commission
VP Rat Genz (fnu)	Propaganda officer
VP Oberrat Scheuber (fnu)	Chief instructor
VP Oberrat Kuschbert (fnu)	Chief of staff
VP Kommandeur Petter (fnu)	Director of artillery training
VP Kommandeur Gauck (fnu)	Director of armored training
VP Oberrat Fritsche (fnu)	Liaison officer to the SSD
VP Oberrat Pittschaff (fnu)	Party secretary
VP Rat Lohse (fnu)	Administrative officer
VP Rat Boden (fnu)	Commanding officer of 1st Kommando
VP Oberkommissar Schauer (fnu)	Commanding officer of 2d Kommando, in Moscow at the end of 1951
VP Rat Kittig (fnu)	Commanding officer of 3d Kommando
VP Rat Jacolm (fnu)	Commanding officer of 4th Kommando

4. VP Inspekteur Paul Markgraf disappeared in September 1951. [redacted] he was allegedly arrested. During an eight-day indoctrination course for noncommissioned officers of the individual Kommandos of the VPD in early December 1951, it was announced that the VPD would undergo [redacted]

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a structural change in 1952. It was said that the unit, which had the character of a regiment at the time of observation, would be brought up to the status of a Soviet brigade, with the Kommandos expanding into regiments, the Abteilungen expanding into battalions, and the Züge expanding into companies. Some of the officers of the VPD had already been told to familiarize themselves with the functions of company commanders. *

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Comment. VP Kommandeur von Witzleben was still on the staff of the 1st Section (Operations) of the Hq NVA in August 1951. VP Inspektour Harigraf in the summer of 1951, was reported to have voiced his intention to quit police service in the fall of 1951. The information regarding the intended change in the structure of the VPD probably refers to plans to organize each four VPDs into NVA divisions in the course of 1952. The shortage of suitable officers and principle weapons makes it appear unlikely that the VPDs could be expanded to the size of brigades, as stated in the present report.

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