

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC General Military Information 25X1

EVALUATION [redacted] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1

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REFERENCES [redacted] 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted]

[redacted] 1. Between 3 and 7 p.m. on 18 February 1952, a convoy of about 10 motorcycles, 20 jeeps and 50 to 60 trucks with troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia, passed through Wernsdorf (N 54/E 61). The vehicles came from the direction of Grimma and went toward Lampa. [redacted]

[redacted] 2. On 19 February, troops from the Luftnachrichten Schule, Halle (N 52/E 92), practiced entraining. A railroadman stated that 6 trains with troops from the Luftnachrichten Kaserne and 2 trains with troops from the Flak Kaserne at Woermlitz were loaded and dispatched westwards on and after 22 February. (2)

[redacted] 3. The troops who assembled in the area east of Wittenberg (N 52/E 37) between 18 and 20 February held a field exercise of an attack type on 21 February. Heavy artillery and rifle fire was heard beginning 6:30 a.m. that day. The troops left by road toward Jueterbog beginning at 4 p.m. on 22 February. [redacted]

[redacted] 4. On 23 February, about 520 officers and men wearing black-bordered red epaulets were seen marching from the MGB barracks installation at Annaberg-Frohna (N 51/K 73) to the military cemetery. Troops who marched from the Mehnert Kaserne to the military cemetery on 24 February included: about 720 officers and men with red-bordered black epaulets; 1 officer and 28 men wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia; and 4 men with black-bordered red epaulets. [redacted]

[redacted] 5. Inspections of recruits were held in the Neue Kaserne, Altenburg (N 51/K 27), between 18 and 26 February. On 24 February, 295 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were observed there. [redacted] Twenty flatcars which were assembled for the military at the Altenburg railroad station on 24 February were no longer seen there on 25 February. (5)

[redacted] 6. At noon on 25 February, a troop train of 9 boxcars with soldiers and an unknown number of flatcars with about 30 trucks, 1 jeep, 1 field kitchen, 2 rocket launchers and 12 to 16 x 122-mm howitzers was unloaded at the Luckenwalde (N 53/Z 70) railroad station.

The unit, which drove toward the artillery range, included rocket launcher

25X1 [redacted] (6)

[redacted] 7. Between 7 and 9 p.m. on 27 February, four columns of troops, including some from the barracks installation at Woermlitz, were observed leaving Halle by road via the Halle freight yard toward Brehna and the autobahn. Each column consisted of: about 14 trucks carrying soldiers, baggage and billeting equipment, 1 field kitchen; 1 tank truck; 1 or 2 jeeps or sedans; 4 light artillery pieces; and 4 AA guns. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

[redacted] 8. At about 6 p.m. on 29 February, a unit, probably a high-echelon headquarters, left the Hindenburg Kaserne, Naumburg (H 52/J 89), toward Weissenfels. The column included 11 sidecar motorcycles, 6 trucks occupied by soldiers with field equipment, 7 sedans, 1 bus and van-like truck [redacted] (8)

25X1 [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] Comments.

(1) [redacted] composition of the convoy indicate that the troops were possibly involved in a command-post exercise of the 8th Gds Mecz Div in the Grimma and Oschatz area.

(2) Components of the 21st Gds Mecz Div probably moved to Ohrdruf or Kindel for a short training cycle. Similar movements to Ohrdruf of tank and artillery battalions belonging to the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle of the same corps were confirmed

See [redacted]

(3) [redacted] major contingents of the 5th Tank Div started moving to the area east of Wittenberg on 15 February. [redacted]

(4) An MGB regiment is carried in Annaberg. The figures mentioned in the present report are indicative of troops above regimental strength.

(5) The movement of elements of one of the artillery brigades in Altenburg to the Ohrdruf troop training grounds in late February 1952 has been substantiated by [redacted]

(6) [redacted] the number of guns, about two artillery battalions of the 9th Gds Tank Div from Neustrelitz moved to the Jueterbog troop training grounds. Another source stated that an element of the 33d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 9th Tank Div with eight guns also left Pasewalk by rail on 25 February 1952.

(7) [redacted] AAA components of the 21st Gds Mecz Div left Halle by road in an undetermined strength. The fact that billeting equipment was taken along is indicative of a sustained period of absence from the post. AAA units of regimental strength were loaded also in Potsdam and Fuerstenwalde on 27 and 28 February 1952.

(8) The information indicates that the Hq 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div left Naumburg, probably for a field exercise. As components of the division left in an opposite direction for Ohrdruf for an 8-day training period in mid-February and as some of these units returned to Weissenfels about 17 February 1952, the Hq 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div possibly held a command-post exercise in the Weissenfels area.

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