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25X1

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

SUBJECT 1. Armored Vehicles near Chungking
2. Personalities and Locations of Government Offices, Chungking

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- 25X1 1. On 15 June 1952 military equipment was observed in the western part of the village of Erhtung, which is about 10 kilometers south of Chungking. The equipment was in a prohibited area and was enclosed by a meshed wire fence. In one corner of the enclosure was a one-story grey brick building about 60 feet long. No troops were observed, but there were two sentries at the gate of the compound and one sentry in one corner of the compound. The sentries wore regular army uniforms and carried the short rifles known in China as cavalry rifles.
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- 2. The approach to the compound was by a hard-surfaced road leading from the main road at the northern part of Erhtung village. There was a gate at the point where the side road branched off. Near the gate was a notice saying in Mandarin characters, "Prohibited area. Travelers keep away." No unit numbers or signs were observed.
- 3. The equipment in the compound was as follows:
 - a. Tanks.¹ There were between 20 and 30 khaki vehicles on tracks with closed turrets, observed from the side only. No markings were visible. The main armament was a gun which protruded well over the hull of the vehicle. Each gun had a canvas cover over nine-tenths of its length. There was an outstanding bulge at the muzzle end of the covering. There appeared to be a machine gun mounted in the hull. There were between six and eight small bogie wheels between the tracks.
 - b. Armored Cars.² There were between 10 and 20 khaki armored vehicles observed head-on, about half as large as the tanks listed above. The front wheels had rubber tires. Four figures were painted on the hull. The turrets were closed and had one canvas covered gun.

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- c. Artillery.³ Between 10 and 15 khaki guns mounted on two wheels with rubber tires. Two smaller wheels supported the trail. The total length of the gun (from muzzle to trail end) was greater than the length of the armored cars reported above, although the armored cars were considerable higher than the top of the gun shields.
- d. Transport. Between six and eight heavy khaki trucks with canvas hoods were seen. These trucks were the ten-wheeled type (two forward and four double rear wheel).
4. Offices of the Southwest Military and Administrative Committee are situated near the Ch'u Ch'i (0328/1142) Gate, Lin Sen (2651/2773) Road, which has now been re-named Liberation (Chieh Fang, 6043/2397) Road. The premises are those originally used as headquarters by the regional commandant, CHEN Shou-shih (6966/1343/0169), in pre-Nationalist times, and later as the Szechuan and Sikang headquarters of CHIANG Kai-shek. This commission is controlled by LIU Po-ch'eng and TENG Hsiao-p'ing.⁴
5. The Chungking garrison commander's headquarters is on the premises which used to house the headquarters of the Nationalist 21 Army on Tso Ying (1563/3602) Street. In June 1952 the garrison commander was CH'ANG Meng-fu (1782/1125/3940).
6. The Chungking government is housed in a new building constructed by YANG Sen (2799/2773) at Shang Ch'ing Szu (0006/3237/1408). As of June 1952 CH'EN Hsi-nien (7115/6932/1628) was in charge of the municipal government.
7. The Public Safety Bureau of the Chungking government is on the Premises formerly occupied by the Nationalist Central Police Bureau on Pao An (0202/1344) Road. The head of this office in June 1952 was CHANG Meng-fu, who also is Chungking garrison commander.

- 25X1 1. Comment. From the description of the suspension, the apparent muzzle brake on the gun, and the general shape of the vehicle, it is believed that these tanks may be some version of the Joseph Stalin tank.
- 25X1 2. Comment. These armored cars are thought to be leftovers from American aid to the Nationalist Government.
- 25X1 3. Comment. The description of the small supporting wheels under the trails of the guns suggests that these may be Soviet equipment of the 12.2 cm field gun or 15.2 cm medium howitzer type.

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