

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2006/04/18 : CIA-RDP82-00457R014100370007-2

TOPIC Military Information from the Altengrabow Training Area

25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 29 August 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

1. At 2 p.m. on 5 July 1952, about 20 x 76.2 mm guns and about 20 trucks [redacted] were seen in the wooded area near Rosenkrug, about 1.5 km northeast of Doernitz in the Altengrabow (N 53/2 00) training area. The guns were unlimbered and were dispersed in the woods. The trucks were behind protective earth walls. The soldiers were quartered in tents and earth bunkers. Three parking areas were seen in the wooded area near Rosenkrug on 7 July. About 20 trucks [redacted] and guns with an estimated caliber of about 150-mm were in the first parking area, and there were about 16 trucks [redacted] and an undetermined number of heavy guns with cylindrical muzzle brakes in the second area. About 15 caterpillar tractors [redacted] were in the third area. About 60 trucks [redacted] each mounting a 20-mm AA gun were seen on the Doernitz-Rosenkrug road at 2 p.m. on 22 July. At 3:30 p.m. on 23 July, 18 trucks [redacted] each mounting a 20-mm AA gun were seen proceeding toward the camp, coming from the Altengrabow railroad station. About 30 trucks [redacted] towing guns were seen proceeding toward Rosenkrug and coming from Camp Altengrabow at about 8 p.m. on 24 July. *

2. Prior to 28 July, the upper section of the Nordlager in Altengrabow was occupied by an artillery unit from Rathenow which was equipped with 122-mm field howitzers. The lower section of the Nordlager was also occupied by an artillery unit from Rathenow with 122-mm field howitzers and by a rear detail of an artillery unit. The 3d hutment was occupied to capacity. [redacted] air force personnel were also stationed in the camp. The officers' hutment was occupied by officers of the Nordlager and officers including air force officers of the unit stationed in the hutment. The Berghotel quartered officers of the unit from Rathenow. ** Training activities seen included:

17 July. From 8 p.m. until midnight, firing of eight 37-mm AA guns at a towed sleeve target. Three searchlights were employed.

23 July. From 4 a.m. to 7 a.m., firing of 37-mm AA guns at towed sleeve targets.

24 July. From 5 a.m. to 7 a.m., combat exercise of a unit equipped with four 160-mm mortars between Altengrabow and Drewitz. Officers and personnel wore gas masks during the exercise. From 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., firing of 37-mm AA guns at towed sleeve targets.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

25X1 25 July. From 10 p.m. until midnight, a night field exercise of an artillery unit
25X1 in the area between Gross Luebars and Drewitz. [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] Several search lights standing between
25X1 the runs lit the terrain and the houses about 1 meter above the ground.
25X1 26 July. From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., aiming and loading practices of 10 mortars on the
25X1 Altengrabow-Doernitz road. Two observation balloons were over the training area during
25X1 the period from 7 a.m. until noon. There was no firing at that time. The aircraft
25X1 towing sleeve targets took off and landed at the Gross Luebars airfield.
25X1 * [redacted] Comment. [redacted] source saw units of the un-
25X1 identified army AT artillery brigade of the Third Shock Army from Brandenburg in the
area of Rosenkrug on 5 July. On 7 July, he saw one motor vehicle each of the 34th
Arty Div (US), the 199th Cds Gun Arty Regt of the 94th Cds Mtz Rifle Div and the
30th Army AT Arty Brig of the Eighth Cds Army in the first area and motor vehicles
of the artillery brigade of the LXXII Mtz Rifle Corps in the second. The AAA column
observed on 22 July belonged to the 2d Cds AAA Div. The column leaving the railroad
station on 23 July probably was an AAA column of the 7th Cds Tank Div. The column
on 24 July was probably an artillery unit of CMA units or of the Eighth Cds Army.
** [redacted] Comment. As compared with observations [redacted] during the second
half of June, the permanent quarters in Altengrabow mentioned in the present re-
port appear to be occupied as previously until late July. [redacted]

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY