

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Cottbus Airfield

25X1

DATE PREPARED 3 October 1952

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. About 5 p.m. on 9 August 1952, only one plane, probably an old Klemm with an Argus type engine, was observed in front of an open hangar at Cottbus airfield. (1) No Russians were observed at the field. VP men guarded the installation. After 9 August, the Klemm plane with a two-man crew was repeatedly observed aloft for about 20 minutes each time. Between the landing and the next take-off, there was an interval of about 30 minutes. [Redacted] the VP detail arrived at the field immediately after the Russians had left. The Soviet aircraft had left during the nights prior to the departure of the Soviet troops.
2. On 14 August, a trainer was parked on the landing field. There was no flying on 14 and 24 August. On 30 August, however, a trainer made practice flights over Cottbus.
3. On 24 August, workmen were still repairing the tile roofs of the former Luftnachrichten Kaserne, north of the Cottbus-Burg road. (2)
4. The AA gun emplacement along Cottbus-Dahlitz road was still unoccupied in late August 1952. (3)
5. Vehicles parked in front of the collecting point for empty containers [Redacted] and a red fire truck on 14 August and trucks [Redacted] on 19 August. On 24 August, no passengers or vehicular traffic was observed there. The air force sentry was still posted at the collecting point. (4)
6. On 19 August, 2 radio trucks each with 2 mast antennas each, 2.5 to 3 meters long, 1 tank truck and 1 ambulance were observed in front of the hangars of the field. Two Po-2s and two other aircraft with radial engines without cowling were parked on the landing field. (5)

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7. On 30 August, construction work was completed in a new block of buildings east of the barracks installation at the field. The four new billets were painted white. VP men in ranks of six were drilling on the drill ground of the new barracks area. (6)
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25X1 8. [redacted] that the VP unit which was quartered in the new barracks buildings was commanded and trained by a Soviet colonel (7)
9. In late August, new trucks arrived at the field almost every day. On 29 August, a train loaded with 28 new vehicles, including 2 trucks with box-like superstructures [redacted] 26 three-axle trucks without box-like superstructures and with rear dual wheels, arrived at the field. The drivers wore blue insignia of rank. On 30 August, three trucks, [redacted] were observed. [redacted] (8) 25X1
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10. On 25 August, 13 empty trucks [redacted] were dispatched from the field to Hoberlug-Kirchhain. On 27 August, 3 loaded trucks and 3 jacks arrived at the field coming from Strausberg. On 1 September, a train consisting of cars from Frankfurt/Oder and Hennigsdorf was observed in Cottbus. [redacted] the train went to Kummerdorf. The train was loaded with 42 trucks [redacted] 25X1
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11. Between noon and 2:15 p.m. on 30 August, local flights were made by a twin-engine plane with a single-rudder assembly. This plane could not be observed on the field after air activity was stopped. It was possibly parked in a hangar.
12. On 30 August, the newly built brick buildings seemed to be occupied as smoke rose from the smokestacks. (6) The old buildings which were previously occupied by Russians were being repaired. They were scheduled to be reoccupied already on 28 August. The fence which previously extended outside the barracks area was moved. (8)
13. A new dump was established on the eastern edge of the field, at a right angle between the Burg highway and the railroad line. It was surrounded by a fence and had sentry boxes on the four corners. (4)
14. Work continued on the road northwest of the field toward the Burg highway. A vacated camp which was newly surrounded by a barbed wire fence was located northwest of this road. (10)
15. On 30 August, 15 large gray box-like objects, each 6 to 7 meters long, 2 to 3 meters wide and 2 to 2.5 meters high, were stored in the northeastern section of the landing field. (8)
16. After 26 August, traffic involving VP vehicles was intensified. On 26 August, individual VP men wearing khaki shirts and trousers but no blouses arrived at the field by streetcar coming from Erfurt. [redacted] 25X1
- 25X1 17. Shipments [redacted] were continuously observed at Cottbus railroad station. [redacted] were fitted with loops on top for the hooks of hoisting gears. 25X1
18. [redacted] 25X1

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19. On 2 and 3 September, local flying was observed at the field. [redacted] the occupation of the field by Russians decreased after 15 August. Since about 20 August, VP men, who were to be trained by Russians, arrived at the field. (7)

[redacted] Comments

- (1) It is believed that this plane is used for training purposes by the 3d Air VP Regt (600/3) which is stationed at Cottbus airfield.
- (2) The former Luftnachrichten Kaserne was previously occupied by the AA unit stationed at the field.
- (3) Since the transfer of the bomber regiment to Jueterbog Altes Lager, the AA unit also left Cottbus airfield.
- (4) It is believed that packing material is being stored at the collecting point on the eastern edge of the field.
- (5) It is believed that these trainers are also used by the 3d Air VP Regt (600/3).
- (6) It was previously reported that the new barracks buildings are occupied by Air VP personnel. 25X1
- (7) The Air VP regiments are probably trained by Soviet instructors. It is unknown whether the instruction personnel has authority of command. 25X1
- (8) In paragraph 2 [redacted] it was assumed that the fighter regiment which had left Parchim airfield in early August is now stationed at Cottbus airfield. Since 13 August, however, no MiG-15s have been observed in Cottbus. The aircraft of the regiment formerly stationed in Parchim have not been observed since their departure from Parchim. It is believed that the aircraft either left Eastern Germany or were assigned to other regiments of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army because, otherwise, [redacted] would have observed them. On the other hand, the 15 MiG-15 [redacted] which were dispatched to Cottbus via Brest Litovsk and Frankfurt/Oder and are now stored in Cottbus, were [redacted] which belongs to the OATB of the fighter regiment previously stationed in Parchim. [redacted] Therefore, it is believed that this OATB is now stationed at Cottbus airfield so that it can be expected that a fighter regiment will be activated. 25X1
- (9) These motor vehicles [redacted] were probably dispatched to a Soviet Army headquarters in Kunnersdorf. 25X1
- (10) The intended use of this camp is not known.

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