

COUNTRY Eastern Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Air Force Troops in Wittenberg 25X1

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

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 9 October 1952

REFERENCES [redacted] 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] 25X1 1. Between 24 July and 2 September 1952, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by 250 to 300 men most of whom wore black-bordered blue epaulets. Some wore red-bordered black epaulets. There was intensive military activity in the installation but only a little training activity. Heavy traffic was observed between the barracks installation and the air force headquarters. Every morning, about 70 soldiers carrying notebooks marched from the barracks installation to the headquarters building. Two or three high-wing monoplanes or biplanes were continuously parked at the improvised airfield near the barracks installation. The former AA gun emplacements at the Elbe River were not occupied in early September. [redacted]

25X1 2. The occupation of the air force headquarters on Sternstrasse had not changed. There was intensive military activity. Motor vehicles which were observed at the headquarters building included sedans [redacted]

25X1 3. On the morning of 27 July, a train section without a locomotive was observed at Wittenberg railroad station. The cars were loaded with ten trucks [redacted] About 10 air force soldiers were observed near the train. In the evening of the same day, the train was no longer observed at the railroad station.

25X1 4. On 6 and 7 August, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne was occupied by 400 to 500 air force soldiers. About 200 men were being trained by eight officers on two radio trucks. The men were recruits, 18 to 20 years old, with close cropped hair. Fourteen biplanes were parked on the improvised airfield behind the barracks installation.

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5. The occupation strength of the barracks installation was unchanged on 3 and 4 September. About 150 air force soldiers were drilling in the barracks yard. A radio truck with an extended antenna was parked in the southern section of the yard. No aircraft were observed at the improvised airfield.

6. Between 9 and 14 August, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne was occupied by about 300 air force soldiers. Many soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia and others with driver insignia, were quartered in a tent camp south of the barracks installation. At least 12 Po-2s were parked at the improvised airfield. They were repeatedly observed aloft. [redacted] the soldiers were repairing motor vehicles. The artillery soldiers were repeatedly observed while drilling. [redacted] the barracks installation included jeep [redacted]

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7. Between 24 August and 4 September, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne was occupied by about 300 air force soldiers and 120 artillery soldiers. Six 76-mm AA guns were observed near the installation. [redacted]

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8. Between 15 and 23 August, 450 to 500 air force soldiers from 20 to 25 years old were quartered in the Brueckenkopf Kaserne. No regular military activity was observed. Four or five trucks, including one with an antenna were parked in the southwestern corner of the barracks installation, camouflaged by shrubs. [redacted]

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* [redacted] Comment. The report confirms that Wittenberg is still occupied by a fighter corps headquarters and the supporting signal, guard and headquarters units. These units are also engaged in training activity. The newly arrived AA unit is probably charged with the protection of a portion of the Elbe River.

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