

COUNTRY East Germany 25X1
REPORT NO. 25X1
TOPIC Merchandise Distribution Center and Werder Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1
DATE OF COMMENT 1 July 1952 to 25 August 1952
DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 22 October 1952
REFERENCES 25X1
PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS
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1. The merchandise distribution center in Werder, referred to as B-3a, supplies the majority of the Soviet Air Force installations in Eastern Germany with general type merchandise such as textiles, epaulets, military belts, shoes, suit cases, radios, cameras and soap etc. In addition, the center delivered groceries to air force installations located in the vicinity of Werder. The average monthly sales of the center amounted to approximately nine million eastmarks. Major Lavrentjev is in charge of the merchandise center.

(1) The center shipped the merchandise to the different stores known as Wirtscharten. The stores carried the names of the officer in charge of them. There were separate stores for officers and for EM. The stores for EM were known as Larjak. (2) The large retail store in Werder was known as UNIVERMAC (Universal magazin). This store sold anything a department store normally would sell. The grocery store for the Russians in Werder is known as Gastrom. (3)

2. The administrative offices of the merchandise center are located in the restricted area in Werder. Lt. Col. Fedjukov, presently on leave in Russia, headed the administrative office. While on leave Fedjukov is being replaced by air force Major Kulikov who was observed using passenger car

3. Shipments to the following stores were observed during July and August 1952:

Name of store	Rank of officer in charge	Location of store
Boldovski	Capt. AF	
Volevatsch		25X1
Gitun		Brandenburg and Jueterbog
Corshkov		
Jevmenkin		
Makejev		25X1

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<u>Name of store</u>	<u>Rank of officer in charge</u>	<u>Location of store</u>
Hashkin	"	Schoenwalde
Ovsjanikov	"	Finsterwalde
Samolenko	"	Dallgow, Doeberitz Staaken
Spitschakov	"	Dammgarten
Strishkov	"	Grossenhain
Salajev	"	"
Tshernov	Capt. AF	Merneuchen
Shurunov	"	"
Larjek 1	"	Werder
Larjek 2	"	"
Larjek 3	"	"
Magazin 5	"	Wusterhausen
Magazin 6	"	"
Magazin 12	"	Rangsdorf
Magazin 8	"	"
Univermag	"	Werder
Gaststube	"	Werder
25X1 Restaurant	"	Werder

In mid-July 1952, a new commander for Werder military post was appointed. The new commander was a major. The billets in the restricted area seemed to be occupied to capacity. The total strength was estimated to be between 1,800 and 2,000 men. There were just as many officers as troops. A large number of the officers were living with their families in requisitioned houses in the restricted area. The number of dependents decreased steadily. There were no new arrivals of officer dependents. Two transient hotels were available to officers visiting Werder on official business. (5)

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5. Since 18 July 1952, changes appeared to be underway at the Werder airfield. Numerous trucks loaded with billeting equipment were observed leaving the airfield area. The trucks involved in this move did not belong to any of the units located in Werder.

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6. In early August 1952, [] that the former restaurant Bismarkhoehe was used as a warehouse for merchandise to be sold to Soviet troops. (6) Trucks picking up merchandise were continuously observed in front of the warehouse. Among others, trucks coming from Leipzig, Eberswalde and Finow were observed.

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7. Until about mid-July 1952, a Soviet general was living on the street at the Zern See. An armed guard was permanently posted in front of the house. (7) There was very little flying activity at Werder airfield. On 13 August 1952, seven or eight men were observed arriving in a twin-engine aircraft. (C)

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9. In early August 1952, it was learned that Colonel Suchanov of the Soviet construction staff in Werder was suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs and that he would not return to his old job. The colonel's original replacement, Lt. Col. Smirnov was transferred and the position is now held by Major Ivshin (fnu).

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- (1) This enterprise is believed to be similar to the PX system of the US Army.
 (2) The retail outlets (Wirtschaften) are known by the names of officers of the unit concerned. This apparently is done for security reasons. It is believed that the merchandise center in Werder supplied the troop units on division level.
 (3) The location of these two installations is known from earlier reports.

- (4) The individual outlets (Wirtschaften) are commented on as follows:

25X1 Boldowski

25X1 Volevatsh

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According to a previous report, installation Volevatsh is located in Gerbst.

Citun - From the information that this installation supplies Brandenburg airfield as well as Jucterbog it is concluded that the subordinate units of the GA division with headquarters in Brandenburg are connected with installation Citun.

Gorshkov - Assumed to be connected with the transport regiment stationed in Brandis. Up to July 1952 this regiment was stationed in Altenburg. reported Wirtschaft Gorshkov from Altenburg in April 1951.

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Jevmenkin -

Makejev - This installation was reported from Finsterwalde airfield in April 1951.

Mashkin - This installation is located at Schoenwalde airfield. This airfield is occupied by a tow target unit which is assumed to be directly subordinate to Hq 24th Air Army.

Savolenko - This installation is assumed to serve the GA division with the headquarters and two regiments located in Doberitz and the third regiment stationed at Stendal airfield.

Spitshakov - Wirtschaft Spitshakov is known to be located at Samtgarten.

Strishkov - Is believed located at Grossenhain.

25X1 Salajev - Installation Salajev was determined to be located in Wittenberg in April 1951.

Ushernov - Is believed to be located at Bernsdorfen airfield which is occupied by a bomber division hq. and two bomber regiments.

25X1 Shurunov - this installation to be located in Cottbus.

(5) The headquarters of the 24th Air Army is located in the restricted area in Werder. The reported troop strength is believed to be correct.

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(6) This Basa office was previously reported.

(7) The Commanding General of the 24th Air Army is believed to be living here.

(8) Werder airfield is only used by courier planes assigned to the headquarters of the 24th Air Army.

(9) The officers of the Werder construction office are known.

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