

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Army

- The 60th Infantry Division, Field Post Number 7895, in Maribor, is under the jurisdiction of the 5th Vojna Oblast, which is in Zagreb (Agram). The division, commanded by N. Garbc, a Slovene about 45 years old, consists of the following: an infantry regiment, a motorized artillery unit, an armored unit, an anti-aircraft unit, an engineer unit, a reconnaissance battalion, a reconnaissance company, a chemical company, and an auto company (autokompagnie). The commander of the Reconnaissance Company is Captain 1st Class Sodian Jere. His company consists of approximately 120 men and is equipped with a number of jeeps. Some of the units are in Maribor, while the others are located in the immediate area.
- The barracks are outside the city, south of the Drava River on Ptujaska Street; others are on Ljubljanska, Damatinova, Joska, and Pariska Streets.
- The armored unit is separated from the others by barbed wire. The entrance to the armored units garages is on Fehova Street in Maribor, where there are newly constructed garages, approximately 80 to 100 meters long, to the left of the entrance. The capacity of the new garages is about 300 trucks and 50 tanks; about 25 Sherman and T-34 tanks are housed in the garages. In this same area, eight large underground gasoline storage tanks are being constructed.
- In Maribor, the Division's vehicles carry the identifying numbers: JLA - A - 69 and JLA - A - 64. These are reportedly changed constantly. In the Cadet Caserne there is a unit (each unit consists of eight to ten soldiers) of "reaction mine throwers" (reaktiven Minenwerfern). This unit, commanded by Captain 2nd Class Cedomir Drobnjak, has three mine throwers assigned to it; the barrels are approximately 80 to 100 cm. with an average bore of 10 cm.

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5. In addition, an infantry regiment, the former Proletariat Brigade is located in Maribor. This is composed of three battalions, of three companies each; there are approximately 450 to 480 men in each battalion. At company level, they are equipped with rifles and machine guns. The battalion level contains a mortar company, a machine-gun section, and an anti-aircraft section. The division artillery regiment, composed of four completely motorized sections, is located in Slovenska-Bistrica, near Maribor. The regiment has pieces of 40 mm., 50 mm., 76 mm., and also larger bore equipment.
6. An independent engineer battalion, Field Post Number 6916, is stationed in Celje. The battalion is under the corps commander in Ljubljana and the 5th Vojna Oblast in Zagreb. It has approximately 400 men and is made up of two engineer companies, one pontoon company, a headquarters company, and a technician unit. It is quartered in an old building on the edge of the city, on the left bank of the Savinja River. Major Miroslav Suardic, a Montenegrin, about 45 years old, is the commanding officer.

Military Police

7. The Military Police were organized in spring 1957. They are identified by a white Sam Brown belt on ordinary army uniforms and police type clubs. In addition, they wear special GWP, egg-shaped insignia on the left pocket of their shirt or uniform jacket. The insignia is approximately 5 to 6 cm. in size and has in the center a yellow star on two crossed rifles and the letters JNA. On the edge are printed the words Military Police (Vojna Policija). The Military Police are probably not so strict as the Gendarmes, since they are only seen in Maribor and Ljubljana. Their responsibilities include patrolling the streets, checking the documents of military personnel, and standing duty in the military headquarters. Motorcycles and jeeps are available for their use. The average M.P. is young, earnest and appears to have undergone a rather severe schooling.

People's Militia

8. The members of the People's Militia, in the years 1948-54, contracted for six years, are now, in part, being released voluntarily. A large number has been released by choice because of a poor level of discipline and the unwillingness of many individuals in service. Out of approximately 2,000, only about 1,000 have remained. The militia consists of officers from a severe personnel shortage. In December 1956, approximately 100 students were placed as honorary traffic police. They work 80 hours a year and must serve at least two hours a day. They wear the ordinary uniform of the militia with a wide white strap on the shoulder. While on duty, they have the same rights as regular members; they may visit the quarters of the militia and study there if they wish. In this way, the personnel shortage within the militia is eased, and the students benefit in the form of quarters, food, and a minimum of spending or expense money.

Airfields

9. The local aeroclub is building a new airport in Mislinska Dobrava. This airfield, about 200 meters by 800 meters, is south of Turiska Vas in the direction of Graska Gora. Although the airfield is covered with grass, it is so constructed that it can be cement covered to serve larger and heavier aircraft. At the present time, it is serviceable only for civilian aircraft.
10. A new airfield is being constructed near Slivnica, not far from Maribor. The present airfield in Slivnica is capable of handling only light civilian aircraft.

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11. In the area of Kranj, near Cerklje, there is a field on the right side of the road approaching Voglje. This airfield is approximately 2,000 meters long and 300 meters wide. The expansion of this field was very poorly received by the local population, since the price paid for the property acquired was extremely low.

Military Industry

The Automobile Factory Maribor (Tovarna Avtomobilov Maribor) which produces aircraft parts, tanks, and field kitchens, is presently constructing special automobiles for Burma. This was the former Thesen Aircraft Plant, near Maribor.

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