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# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Bulgarian military Air Force is reported to be composed of the following three divisions:

6 Fighter Division  
16 Fighter Regiment  
26 Fighter Regiment

Bozhurishte (Sofia)  
Bozhurishte  
Karlovo

2 Ground Attack Division  
12 Ground Attack Regiment  
22 Ground Attack Regiment

Plovdiv  
Plovdiv  
Gorna Orehovitsa

5 Bomber Division  
15 Bomber Regiment  
25 Torpedo Regiment  
Parachute Regiment

Graf Ignatiev  
Graf Ignatiev  
Balcik  
Stara Zagora

2. The regiments are each composed of two squadrons as follows:

16 Fighter Regiment

: 1 Squadron, 7 YAK-9 planes  
2 Squadron, 7 YAK-9 planes

26 Fighter Regiment

1 Squadron, 8 YAK-9 planes  
2 Squadron, 7 YAK-9 planes

12 Ground Attack Regiment

: 1 Squadron, 8 Stormovik IL2 planes  
2 Squadron, 7 Stormovik IL2 planes

22 Ground Attack Regiment

1 Squadron, 8 Stormovik IL2 planes  
2 Squadron, 8 Stormovik IL2 planes

15 Bomber Regiment

: 1 Squadron, 8 PE2 planes  
2 Squadron, 7 PE2 planes

25 Torpedo Regiment

: 1 Squadron, 6 Topolev planes  
2 Squadron, 6 Topolev planes

## Parachute Regiment

: 3 Junker planes

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## 3. Commanders of the Bulgarian Air Force units are as follows:

6 Fighter Division	: Lieutenant Colonel Kristo Atanasov, Captain Petrov, Political Commissar Major Vassilev, Chief of Staff
2 Ground Attack Division	: Major Maru Tanev
5 Bomber Division	: Lieutenant Colonel Boris Popov
16 Fighter Regiment	: Captain Ivan Demirev
26 Fighter Regiment	: Lieutenant Colonel Nedo Asmanov
1 Squadron	: Lieutenant Ferdinandov
12 Ground Attack Regiment	: Captain Dragomir Stefanov
15 Bomber Regiment	: Lieutenant Konlov
1 Squadron	Lieutenant Vassil Vasilev
2 Squadron	Georgi Kanakov
25 Torpedo Bombing Regiment	: Captain Dezev
1 Squadron	Captain Terziev
2 Squadron	Captain Lazarov
Parachute Regiment	: Lieutenant Colonel Marincevski

## 4. In order to have an exact idea of the actual state of the Bulgarian Air Force, the following facts should be borne in mind:

- a. Each division consists of only two regiments;
- b. Each regiment is composed of only two squadrons (which, in effect, consist only of one group);
- c. Each squadron is equipped only with seven or eight planes. Thus each regiment has fifteen planes and each division thirty planes.
- d. The divisional commanders are lieutenant colonels or majors; the regimental commanders are usually captains.

## 5. The actual strength of the Bulgarian Air Forces is as follows:

- a. One fighter regiment
- b. One ground attack regiment
- c. One bomber regiment
- d. One torpedo bomber regiment
- e. One parachute regiment.

## 6. The present organization of the Bulgarian Air Force is the skeleton force upon which regular regiments and divisions will be formed at a later period. There are in fact enough planes for the formation of these units on an effective scale but at the present moment this plan cannot be carried out because of the lack of pilots and specialized personnel, a deficiency which is being remedied by the intense training of new recruits. The planes not assigned to the various units are kept in reserve. The planes are in good condition.

## 7. Aeronautical material: It was reported that the following planes arrived in Bulgaria from the Soviet Union during the period 1945 to the summer of 1948:

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- 100 fighters of the YAK-9 type
  - 100 ground attack planes of the IL2 and Stormovik types
  - 96 bombers of the PE2 type
  - 30 planes of the Topolev type
10. All obsolete planes, including those of German type and a certain number of Italian craft were sent to the Soviet Union to be used as scrap metal.

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