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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

DWP

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Bulgarian Order of Battle

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

DISTRIBUTION

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STATE	WAR	NAVY	JUSTICE						

1. At the head of the Supreme Military Authority is the Minister of War and the Military Council, acting as a consultant body. The following branches of the Ministry of War are controlled by the Deputy Minister of War:

- a. Departments and Inspectorates of the Ministry
- b. The General Staff
- c. The Armistice Commission
- d. Foreign Missions

2. The Ministry of War proper consists of the following:

- a. The Secretariat which is divided into personnel sections for officers, NCOs and enlisted men.
- b. The General Staff Inspectorates; Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Engineers, Signals and Mobilization.
- c. The Courts Martial or Judicial Section.
- d. Materiel Supply Departments, Medical, Artillery, Engineer, Signal, Veterinary and Commissariat.
- e. The General Staff, which is subdivided; Operations, Technical, Military Intelligence (Internal, Foreign and CE), Army, Navy and Air Force commands.

3. Soviet Troops in Bulgaria.

- a. Soviet troops are in the Sliven - Karnobat areas. Some of the troops are from Rumania and have assembled in Bulgaria to take part in maneuvers. The following are the dispositions of the Soviet troops:

Kazanlik - a regiment of armored cars
 Varna - 64th Division and the port garrison
 Burgas - Port garrison
 Sliven, Stara Zagora and Nova Zagora - armored troops

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4. The Bulgarian Land Forces.

There are three Bulgarian armies: the First at Sofia, the Second at Plovdiv and the Third at Varna. Each army is composed of the following formations:

Cavalry Brigade
 Infantry Divisions (two or three)
 Armored Division
 Regiment of Mountain Artillery
 Regiment of Heavy Motorized Artillery
 Regiment of AA Artillery
 Regiment of AT Artillery
 Regiment of Assault Engineers
 Regiment of Combined Engineer and Signal Troops
 Police Battalion

5. Army Cavalry Brigades consist of two regiments each. There are brigades located at Sofia, Yambol and Shumen. Cavalry regiment headquarters are located at the following places: 1st - Buzum, 2nd - Lom, 4th - Yambol, 6th - Harmanli, 8th - Silistra, 10th - Shumen.

6. Infantry Divisions. There are seven infantry divisions, each consisting of:

Infantry regiments (three)
 Artillery regiment
 Divisional Cavalry Group
 Combined Engineer and Signal battalion
 Supply Battalion

7. Infantry regiments. Infantry regiments are located as follows:

1st Sofiski - Sofia
 3rd Vidinski - Vidin
 5th Dunavski - Ruse
 6th Trnovski - Sofia
 7th Preslavski - Shumen
 8th Primorski - Varna
 9th Plovdivski - Plovdiv
 11th Slivenski - Sliven
 15th Lomski - Belogradcik
 18th Eterski - Trnovo
 19th Sumenski - Razgrad
 21st Srednjogorski - Smolyan
 22nd Trakiski - Dupnitsa
 24th Crnomorski - Burgas
 25th Dragomanski - Slivnitsa
 27th Cepinski - Chepino
 29th Yambolski - Yambol
 33rd Svistovski - Lovec
 35th Vracanski - Vratsa
 39th Solunski - Nevrokop

8. Artillery Regiments. These are located as follows:

1st - Ruse
 2nd - Vratsa
 3rd - Plovdiv
 4th - Sofia
 5th - Shumen
 6th - Sliven
 7th - Samokov

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9. Armored Divisions.

- a. There are three armored divisions. Two are up to strength, and the third is being formed. An armored division consists of the following:

- Armored car regiment
- Motorized infantry regiment
- Motorized artillery regiment
- Reconnaissance group consisting of two companies of armored cars and one company of cyclists
- Combined engineer and signal battalion

- b.  the Soviets have provided the armored divisions with the following armament: 60 Panzer Armored Cars and 60 Soviet Armored cars T-34, the remaining materiel coming from the Germans and their satellites. 50X1-HUM

( Comment: It is not clear whether this means 60 cars, etc. per division or 60 cars, etc. for all three units. 50X1-HUM

- c. Hqs of armored divisions are located as follows: 1st Division at Sofia, 2nd Division at Plovdiv and 3rd Division at Yambol.
- d. The 1st and 2nd Armored Car Regiments are located at Sofia and Plovdiv, respectively. The 1st and 2nd Motorized Infantry Regiments are located at Samokov and Plovdiv, respectively. The 1st and 2nd Motorized Artillery Regiments are located at Breznik and Plovdiv, respectively. The 1st and 2nd Reconnaissance Groups are located at Bankija and Plovdiv, respectively.

10. Army troops are located as follows:

a. Mountain artillery regiments

- 1st regiment - Razlog
- 2nd regiment - Asenovgrad
- 3rd regiment - Trgoviste

b. Heavy motorized artillery regiments

- 1st regiment - Sofia
- 2nd regiment - Plovdiv - Haskovo
- 3rd regiment - Shumen

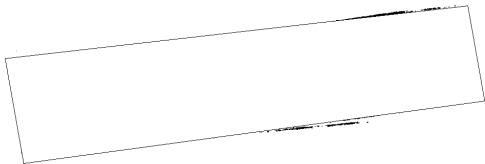
c. AA artillery regiments

- 1st regiment - Sofia
- 2nd regiment - Kazanlik
- 3rd regiment - Yambol

d. AT artillery regiments

- 1st regiment - Kustendil
- 2nd regiment - Chirpan
- 3rd regiment - Razgrad

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e. Assault engineer regiments

1st regiment - Sofia
 2nd regiment - Plovdiv
 3rd regiment - Shumen

f. Combined engineer and signal regiments

1st regiment - Sofia
 2nd regiment - Plovdiv
 3rd regiment - Shumen

11. GHQ Troops. Units under GHQ control are located as follows:

Two Coastal artillery regiments -- Burgas and Varna
 Signal regiment - Sofia
 Railroad regiment - Sofia
 Transport regiment - Sofia
 Three battalions of unknown type, one each at Radomir, Peshtera and Elkhovo

12. Labor regiments. These formations can be divided into two categories. One is used for instructing recruits in excess of the number permitted into the armed forces by the peace treaty, and the second for retaining older classes who are due for demobilization, and for giving preliminary training to youths below the mobilization age.

- a. The first group which is for training recruits is formed into twelve regiments which are located as follows: 1st - Sofia, 2nd - Plovdiv, 3rd - Sliven, 4th - Shumen, 5th - Ruse, 6th - Pleven, 7th - Radomir, 8th - Nova Zagora, 9th - Vidin, 10th - Yambol, 11th - Burgas and 12th Stara Zagora.
- b. The second group, from which labor for public works is recruited, comes under a directorate in Sofia. At present this directorate is headed by General Blagoj Ivanov. It is composed of a chancery, a command section, an economic section, cultural sections and a physical culture section. The Provincial Battalions, of which there are three or four per province are subordinated to the directorate at Sofia. The locations of the labor battalions are as follows:

Hristo Botev - working on lengthening the railroad at Pernik-Volujak
 Aleksandar Stamboliski - rebuilding the road at Haim Boaski
 Vasil Kolarov - at Tundzi
 Asen Zlatarev - working on the railroad station at Kostenev
 Drajco Kozlov - working on lengthening the railroad line at Trojan Lovce

13. Officers on Active Duty. Since 9 September 1944 there have been 3,400 officers on the active duty list of the Bulgarian Army. Former officers have been gradually removed from the army under various pretexts. Today only 170 of them hold command appointments apart from those who are proven Communists. Aside from this number, there are 3,000 officers in the Army of whom 94 percent are politically sound, i.e. former partisans, or are from labor organizations or are members of the Communist Party. Soviet officers are serving as Chiefs of Staff in some of the local formations of the Bulgarian Army. This is especially true in the Third Army and in the 3rd Division.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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14. Miscellaneous Information.

- a. At the end of July 1947 two more sectors had been formed to add to the already existing 24 sectors controlled by the Frontier Troops. The new sectors are in Sozopol and in Balcik.
- b. The railroads possess 500 locomotives with 14,000 cars. 6,000 of the cars were of Soviet origin. The railroad car requirements are still unfulfilled as at least 20,000 are needed.
- c. The construction of the Sliven-Yambol-Elkhovo-Matocina and the Yambol-Burgas roads is of outstanding importance. The construction of four roads has begun. Two of them have been completed, and the remaining two should be finished very soon.

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15. The Militia. The Militia comes under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Its strength is 120,000 and it is divided into the following two branches:

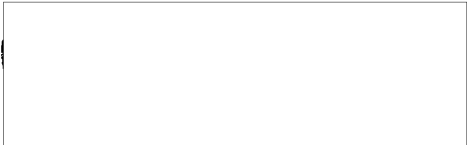
- a. The Political Police under the Security Department are located in Sofia and commanded by Major General Rusi Hristov.
- b. The Gendarmerie Hqs is also located in Sofia. This formation is commanded by Major General Bojan Bolgaref.
- c. Each province has its own militia which is commanded by a colonel who is assisted by a major.

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