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INFORMATION REPORT **128627**

COUNTRY Germany and Austria
SUBJECT Soviet & Soviet-Zone Broadcasts Relating to Germany, Austria, and the Approaching London Conference
PLACE ACQUIRED Foreign broadcasts monitored by the FBI, Washington, D.C.

DATE DISTR 18 November 1947

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE ACQUIRED 7 - 13 November 1947

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S GRADING OF CONTENT					
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SOURCE Foreign Radio Broadcasts

INTRODUCTION: This week, for the first time since the Moscow Conference aftermath several months ago, a great deal of Soviet-controlled German radio attention is given to the approaching London Conference. The plea for reparations has not yet re-appeared as a major theme in Soviet broadcasts, but there is an extraordinary amount of emphasis on the theme of German unity, with the prediction that the London Conference will decide whether Germany is to be "permanently split up"; and the Soviet-zone radio also gives major attention to the movement for all-German representation in London. The Friedensburg committee of German party leaders, "to inform the foreign ministers of the German view," is given wide publicity; Schumacher's unwillingness to cooperate with it is called "incomprehensible"; the support of CDU and LDP leaders is publicized; and the U.S. is said to be unwilling to grant to the German people as a whole the elementary right to "express an opinion" on their own fate.

Clay's anti-totalitarian policy is denounced by both Moscow and Soviet-zone German radios as "fascist," as anti-Soviet (and hence "war-breeding"), and as a device to make the dismemberment of Germany "palatable" to the Germans.

- POTSDAM AGREEMENT:** Slighted, except in the context of the unity theme. It is recalled that the Potsdam decisions "provided for German unity."
- GERMAN UNITY:** The previously large amount of attention to German unity has greatly increased in anticipation of the London Conference, and is by all odds the chief

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single theme in that context. All-German representation is especially stressed. There are pleas for trade-union unity across zonal boundaries; protests against economic union of the Saar with France; references to the Zeitz (Saxony) plebiscite which heavily favors unity; quotations from Kuelz of the LDP and Kaiser of the CDU favoring an all-German government; and an assertion that Senator Vandenberg favors the Hoover proposal for a separate peace with a west-German state, to be created after the London Conference breaks down.

3. DEMILITARIZATION: Slighted.

4. DENAZIFICATION: Slighted, except for the assertion that Clay's anti-totalitarian information policy is welcomed by the "many Nazis" in the western zones.

5. ECONOMIC CONTROL: Familiar statements are often repeated, such as: "American capital is trying to dominate western Germany completely," and "the Washington agreement marks... the eviction of Great Britain from the Ruhr, that old stronghold of British influence." Dismantlings are described as excessive.

6. REPARATIONS: Slighted.

7. ECONOMIC FAILURE: The "economic anarchy" in western Germany is referred to.

8. LAND REFORM AND SOCIALIZATION: There are references, as often in the past, to the press conference of 14 August at which Clay is alleged to have announced the abandonment of socialization as a "condition" of increased American help. It is also said that, in the recent Anglo-American agreement, "one has completely forgotten the plan of socialization of the Ruhr industry which the Labor Government expounded so vociferously."

9. AUSTRIA (an eight-month survey): The pattern of broadcasts with regard to Austria, during the past eight months, has been remarkably similar to the pattern with regard to Germany. For instance, as in the case of Germany, the following ideas are stressed: the threat of American dollars to national independence; the Soviet desire to promote national independence; the "reactionary," pro-American stand of non-Communist parties (People's Party and Socialists); coddling of Nazis and "Austro-fascists"; hunger in the western zones and productive efficiency in the Soviet zone; the need for land reform; the need to repatriate displaced persons. As in the case of Germany, the right of the Soviet Union to reparations ("Nazi assets" in this case) was asserted during the Moscow Conference, but has been neglected since then. The assertion of Austrian war-guilt, made during the Moscow Conference, has also been allowed to lapse.

Two differences in Soviet propaganda about Germany and Austria are: (a) In the case of Austria there is no stress at all on the idea of national unity. In fact, any

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suggestion of unity as between Germany and German-speaking Austria is branded as
fascistic "Pan-German propaganda." (b) There has been little stress, as yet, on the
London Conference. The question of the Austrian peace treaty has been scarcely
mentioned, and there has been no monitored discussion of the withdrawal of troops, or
its relation to Austrian independence.

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