

MR. BAZZING

8 December 1954

127

GERMAN ELECTION OUTCOME

I. Percent of popular vote and seats won (compared with 1950):

	1950 %	1954 %	1950 seats	1954 seats
SOCIALIST	44.7	44.6	61	64
CHRISTIAN DEM.	24.9	30.4	34	44
FREE DEM.	33	12.8	32	19
REFUGEE PARTY	2.2	2.6	--	--
GERMAN PARTY	3.7	4.9	--	--
SOCIALIST UNITY (Communist)	--	2.7	--	--
ALL OTHERS	1.8	2.1	--	--

DOCUMENT NO. 15 X-2612
 NO CHANGE IN CLASS. II
 EXTENDED
 DATE 1-9-80 REVIEWER:

II. Two-party coalition (Christian Democratic - Socialist) now appears highly probable.

- A. Socialists hold one-seat majority in the legislature and could control the government.
- B. Christian Democrats showed a marked gain in popular appeal--nearly six percent increase in popular vote over 1950.
- C. Leaders of both parties are reported strongly favoring such a coalition.

III. Neither Radical right-wing party nor Communists won representation.

- A. Right-wing German Party, narrowly missed getting the five percent required for representation.
- B. Socialist Unity (Communist) Party won only 2.7 percent, somewhat less than expected.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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IV. Socialist-Christian Democratic coalition would assure continuation of moderate economic and social policies, general support for Adenauer on foreign policy.

~~SECRET~~

The sharp decline of the Free Democratic Party to little more than half of its 1950 election strength contributed to the ^{gains} ~~increases~~ made by the Christian Democrats and the right-wing German Party.

A. The extreme irresponsibility of the party's right wing, which has controlled much of its policy during the past year, has caused it to be increasingly unpopular in West Berlin.

B. The forced resignation of FDP deputy Mayor ^{Walther} Conrad following a ^{No confidence} ~~vote of censure~~ by the city legislature on charges of alleged anti-semitism in his administration, was an additional blow to the prestige of the Free Democratic Party.