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SECURITY INFORMATION

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[Redacted]

- 1. On 6 December 1952, [Redacted] the East German Council of Ministers charged Director General Erwin Kramer with the sole responsibility for a smooth functioning of railroad operations. In this connection, Kramer detached Deputy Directors General Lehmann (fnu) and Hetz (fnu) to Halle and Magdeburg respectively. Deputy Director General Richard Stainer took over the routine work previously done by Kramer at the Directorate General, Railroads, Berlin. ¹
- 2. [Redacted] the 2d Railroad Conference would not be held in Berlin-Grusnau as previously scheduled, but in Weimar from 23 to 25 January, because the SCC ruled that Berlin was not the proper place for an internal railroad conference. Conferences of the Directorate General, Shipping, Berlin, and Motor Traffic and Roads, Berlin, were scheduled to be held in the weeks preceding and following the railroad conference. ²
- 3. [Redacted] Professor Hans Reingruber, Minister of Traffic, was soon to be replaced by Ernst Wollweber, at present State Secretary in the Ministry of Traffic. By order of the SCC, the Directorate General, Railroads, Berlin, is to be made into a Ministry of Railroads. ³
- 4. On 1 December 1952, [Redacted] 250 railroad personnel, including locomotive engineers, stokers, and train conductors, in Frankfurt/Oder were being taught to handle Soviet transit trains operating through Poland. [Redacted] 52 locomotives from the SMA Reserve in Strasburg and an undetermined parking lot on the Fuerstenwalde-Muellrose railroad line had been assembled. These locomotives, which will be coupled to a caboose, will be temporarily employed in East Germany. ⁴
- 5. On 20 December, the chief of the railroad repair shop (Bw) in Cottbus reported that sand had been placed in all the axle arms and bearings of an overhauled locomotive. The SSD was investigating the affair.
- 6. On 30 December, 10 new RRYm-type flatcars were transferred from the Lova Plant in Miesky to Hennigsdorf. Six RRYm cars [Redacted] were transferred to Brandenburg and six others [Redacted] were transferred to Hennigsdorf on 18 December. ⁵

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7. On 5 January 1953, [redacted] Lauterwald (fnu), chief of [redacted] had been made special commissioner for gasoline and oil shipments. On 1 January, the position of Director General for Political Affairs at the Directorate General, Railroads, Berlin, was filled by Robert Menzel, who graduated from the Karl Marx Academy. Robert Menzel's brother, Fritz Menzel, the previous chief of the Political Administration of the Directorate General, Railroads, Berlin, went to Moscow for one year's political training. ⁶

8. The experiments made at the Stendal railroad repair shop with coal dust-fired locomotives provided with a coal crushing plant were discontinued on 20 November. The locomotive used will be reconverted to a standard grated locomotive. ⁷

9. In mid-December, [redacted] a large number of coal dust-fired locomotives was deactivated because their copper fire boxes were unable to stand the high temperatures generated by coal dust and had worn out after a short time. ⁷

10. In compliance with a resolution made by the Council of Ministers on 21 August 1952, the Director General, Railroads, Berlin, on 18 December, decreed that a Materials Procurement Department was to be established at all railroad subdistrict offices on 1 January 1953. ⁸

11. [redacted] central inspection department was established at the Directorate General and an inspection department at each of the eight regional railroad headquarters. ⁹

12. [redacted] new official railroad passes would be issued after 1 January 1953. The passes will be in different colors for different categories of employees. They must be provided with a photograph of the bearer and stamped and will be valid for two years. ¹⁰

13. After 1 January 1953, goods shipped by the East German railroads will be given the following numerical designations: ¹¹

1 Coal, coke

2 Ore

3 Metals

4 Scrap

5 Chemicals

6 Fertilizers

7 Liquid fuels and tar products

8 Construction materials

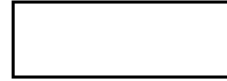
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10 Lumber

11 Potatoes

12 Grain

13 Sugar-beets

14 Sugar

15 Salt

16 Fruit and vegetables

17 Seeds and young plants

18 Alcohol

19 Livestock

20 Miscellaneous foodstuff

21 Fodder

22 Raw materials and finished products of the paper and textile industries

23 Piece goods and collective cargo

24 Miscellaneous goods.

1. Comment. The critical situation of the East German railroads in the last quarter of 1952 provoked very critical comments in the East German press. In connection with this situation, special measures were taken designed to define the responsibility of railroad agencies and to find scapegoats for possible trials. . It is believed that the existing difficulties are mainly due to the prevailing weaknesses in the physical status of tracks and of locomotives and rolling stock.

2. Comment. Information on the planned railroad conference was transmitted previously.

3. Comment. This information, which may be correct, requires confirmation. Ernst Wollweber was previously Director General, Shipping, Berlin.

4. Comment. The assembly in Frankfurt/Oder of railroad personnel for column locomotives was reported previously. As has been determined in the meantime, the measure reported was designed to help overcome operational difficulties. For this reason, the Soviets consented to the temporary use of some of their reserve locomotives. The locomotives of locomotive column No 6 were parked in Strasburg; the other parking lot mentioned probably was Beeskow, where the locomotives are being kept.

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5. Comment. Information on the production at Niesky of these new heavy-duty flatcars was transmitted previously. 25X1
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6. Comment. Information on the establishment of a central railroad car administration office was transmitted previously. 25X1
 Robert Menzel has become the fifth Deputy Director General Railroads Berlin. 25X1
7. Comment. 25X1
 . It is probably because of these defects that the number of coal dust-fired locomotives was not increased during the last months. On 30 November, a total of 79 such locomotives, including 36 serviceable ones, was available. 25X1
8. Comment. Difficulties in the field of supply necessitated the establishment of special material procurement departments. The organizational chart for the set-up of railroad subdistrict offices will have to be supplemented accordingly. 25X1
9. Comm. 25X1
 This inspection service is subdivided into an auditing and a technical department and charged with keeping expenditure and consumption of materials as low as possible.
10. Comment. These new railroad passes reflect the tightened security measures taken in East Germany. the passes will not be issued before mid-January 1953. 25X1



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