

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [] 25X1
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BY CABLE

- 25X1 1. [] the riots were spontaneous and not engineered, even in their early stages, by the Soviets.
2. Discussions on plans for a strike took place as early as 3 June when the workers of the Stalin Allee project had become restless. Two selected workers who had been sent to Otto Grotewohl on 13 June to complain about working conditions were turned away. On 15 June, it was agreed to strike. The Hennigsdorf union leaders were notified and the workers of the central stockyards were asked to join. On the evening of the 16th, the strike leaders of the Hennigsdorf, Stalin Allee and central stockyard workers agreed to hold a demonstration parade on the morning of 17 June. They had also planned to storm the union headquarters and to take over the communications room. Communications specialists were assigned to take over the technical positions and to cut the communications lines to the various ministries. During the night of 16 June, the strike leaders were informed that Soviet tanks were en route and that the important communications centers had been placed under heavy guard. On the morning of 17 June it had become obvious to the strike leaders that their plans had been disclosed to the Soviets. They decided nevertheless to go ahead with the demonstration parade. Since the demonstrators were prevented by the Volkspolizei and Soviets from marching to their original objectives, it is believed that the plans for the march route must also have fallen into the hands of the Soviets.
3. The situation had returned to normal as of noon of 23 June. It is believed that the Soviets will reconstitute the government with the inclusion of new bourgeois leaders.

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396