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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Chinese Order for East German Aerial Training Devices

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1

[Redacted]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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[Redacted]

1. In Nov 1954, negotiations were concluded by the Chinese Trade Delegation in East Berlin for the purchase of 15 A-1 Aerial Training Devices from VEB Optik Carl Zeiss Jena.
2. Of these units, two devices are to be delivered as samples by fall 1954, the remaining 13 by February or March 1955.
3. An export and delivery license for these units still has to be issued by Soviet authorities, presumably from Moscow, before Zeiss Jena can deliver the items, but Zeiss officials believe this authorization will be forthcoming for this rather small order.
4. At the same time, the Chinese People's Republic Government, through its Trade Delegation in East Berlin, requested permission from Zeiss Jena to assign four "students" and one interpreter to the Zeiss plant, ostensibly for training in the handling of A-1 devices. The Zeiss management referred this request to the East German Ministry for Foreign and Domestic Trade (MAI) for approval. Details of when these "students" are to begin their assignment and how long their ~~training~~ is to last have not been worked out.

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Comment: Previously, China had negotiated for the delivery of 200 A-1 Devices from Zeiss Jena. [Redacted] Apparently, delivery of this quantity was disallowed by the Soviets.

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