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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO. 25X1

COUNTRY East Germany
 SUBJECT East German Ministry of the Interior
 Order for Walkie-Talkies

DATE DISTR 14 December 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 25X1
 (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. VEB Funkwerk Leipzig, Eichstaedtstrasse 9-11, Leipzig O 27, one of the enterprises under the Main Administration of Radio and Telecommunications Technology (HV RFT), in the East German Ministry for Machine Construction, had an order from the East German Ministry of the Interior to produce in 1954 a certain number of small radio apparatuses for transmitting and receiving (Funksende- und Empfangsanlagen) powered by batteries. This order had high priority; its designation was Regierungspflichtauftrag (government duty order) B4/3555-599. An order for the manufacture of the batteries was issued to VEB Grubenlampenwerk Zwickau, an SAG enterprise until 31 December 1953, now under the Main Administration of Cable and Apparatus Construction in the Ministry for Machine Construction.
2. In early October 1954, the Zwickau enterprise notified the Ministry for Machine Construction that it would not be able to produce more than 200 of the batteries ordered and this only if it received special allocations of material. In early October 1954, not a single one of the batteries was completed.
3. On 5 October 1954 Willi Stoph, East German Minister of the Interior, personally contacted Minister for Machine Construction Heinrich Rau, and had a showdown with him concerning the situation described. He informed Rau that production of the radio apparatuses by the end of the year was doubtful not only because of the lack of batteries but also because of the lack of other materials, such as Hydronalium sheets. Stoph requested Rau to do everything in his power so that the apparatuses would be ready for use by the end of 1954. Rau immediately ordered the Rostock shipyards to furnish the required amount of Hydronalium sheets, where they were in stock.
4. In order to provide the batteries, Rau appointed the head of the Central Department for Production Management in his Ministry, Arthur Tiefensee, as a special representative to expedite the order of the Ministry of the Interior. Tiefensee took steps to have the batteries imported from abroad. The Ministry of the Interior, however, ordered that such imports should only be made from "friendly" countries.

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25X1

Page Denied

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

Tiefensee's attempts to secure import of the batteries from the USSR and Czechoslovakia failed in negotiations with the Trade Delegations of those two countries. It was ~~thereupon~~ decided that the batteries were to be imported. ~~It was~~ Stoph stipulated in this connection that the import had to be carried out in a secret and cautious manner, because the intended use of the batteries could be easily deduced from their dimensions.

25X1
25X1

5. The batteries in question are nickel-cadmium batteries with the designation NICD 2.4 NC 24 Ah. These batteries, which in German nomenclature are called Nickelcadmiumsammler (plan position 51 41 300), have 2 x 1.2 V in series connection. The import order is for 1,760 units. The specified dimensions are:

width: 125 mm (maximum 126 mm)
depth: 70 mm (maximum 70 mm)
height: 185 mm (maximum 190 mm).

6. In a special directive to the Main Director¹ of DIA Machine Import, Bau made this man personally responsible for the immediate carrying out of the import order.²

Comment. Previously reported as Hans Liebach.

25X1

Comment. Source did not know the final destination of the radio stations to be produced by Funkwerk Leipzig. However, an inkling of this destination might be obtained from the following facts:

25X1

- a. During the war, nickel-cadmium batteries with the designation NICD 2.4 NC 10 Ah of about the same dimensions as the ones given above, were used in mobile radio stations (walkie-talkies) called Tornisterfunksprechgeraete. The difference between the batteries ordered by the Ministry of the Interior and these batteries is that the old ones were for 10 ampere-hours, whereas the ones ordered now are for 25 ampere-hours, as can be seen from their designations.
- b. In early 1951, the Buero fuer Wirtschaftsfragen, now affiliated with the Ministry of the Interior under the name of Administration for the Placement of Orders, delivered, in semi-finished condition, 85 Tornister-funksprechgeraete called "Friedrich" to Funkwerk Koepenick in order to have them completed. Funkwerk Koepenick completed them and delivered the devices to the BfW.

25X1

SECRET

- 2 -