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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR.

29 March 1955

SUBJECT

Information on the East German State Secretariat for Motor Traffic and Roads

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PLACE ACQUIRED

[Redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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2. In addition to previously decreed economy measures [Redacted]

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these agencies

had to return a certain percentage of their appropriations to the state budget. The State Secretariat for Motor Traffic and Roads had to refund 3 percent of its budget or 790,000 Eastmarks. The money had to be returned by 30 September 1954. In the letter it was further stated that all expenses for administrative and cultural purposes were to be suspended effective immediately. Except for engineers, no new personnel was to be hired. 4

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3. [Redacted] VEB Strassenbau Potsdam called [Redacted]

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to propose [Redacted]

that construction work on the Strausberg-Eggersdorf highway be discontinued. [Redacted] the sum of 1.8 million eastmarks made available for this project had been spent and [Redacted] the remaining allocation of 3.5 million eastmarks had not yet been appropriated by the Ministry of the Interior. Since the wage fund of VEB Strassenbau Potsdam had been exhausted, loans had to be raised from week to week in order to be able to pay wages and materials required. 5

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1. [Redacted]

2. [Redacted] Comment. For draft and motivation of proposals, see Annex 2. The installations mentioned in Section II were included in the 1954 highway construction program . The bridges mentioned are socalled "Folgevorhaben", which means that construction work on them was started in 1952 and 1953. These bridges were scheduled to be completed in 1954. The draft throws significant light on the financial plight in the GDR and the clumsy bureaucratic procedure prevailing in government agencies.

3. [Redacted]

[Redacted] Comment. A yearly budget of 35 million eastmarks will be inadequate for the actual requirements. Originally, a sum of 80 million eastmarks had been envisaged for the State Secretariat in 1955. [Redacted] These figures indicate that the physical status of bridges and highways in the GDR is bound to deteriorate.

4. [Redacted] Comment. Georgino was previously known to hold the assignment of deputy state secretary at the Ministry of Finance.

5. [Redacted] Comment. Referent Giersberg was reported for the first time. Leiser was previously known to hold the assignment mentioned. The Strausberg-Eggersdorf highway is being built by order of the Ministry of the Interior. Top-level KVP agencies are located at Strausberg.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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