

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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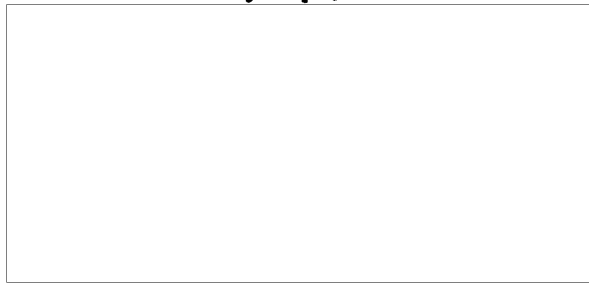
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SUBJECT	Shortage of Relay Caps in the East German Telecommunications Industry	DATE DISTR.	14 March 1955
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. The Zentrallaboratorium fuer Fernmeldetechnik (Central Laboratory for Telecommunications Technology - ZLF) has been trying for a long time to obtain caps (Abdeckklappen) for telegraphic relays. These caps are urgently needed for a great number of relay-operated instruments produced by enterprises under the Main Administration for Radio and Telecommunications Technology (HV RFT) of the East German Ministry for Machine Construction. 25X1
2. In early January 1955, the ZLF obtained the first samples of caps, made of plexiglass, developed by VEB Stickstoffwerk Piesteritz. The enterprise mentioned is the only one in East Germany which has produced relay caps from this material. It turned out that the caps could not be used, because the Piesteritz plexiglass was too brittle.
3. The failure of the Piesteritz enterprise's caps blocked the delivery of relay-operated instruments in the value of several hundred thousand DME. The Ministry for Machine Construction has urgently requested the ZLF to start its own development of suitable relay caps.

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