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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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NOTE: The following is an analysis of the potato supply statement for 1952. It was made up by the State Secretariate for the Collection and Purchase of Agricultural Products. The analysis is based on the tables listed as follows:

I 1951 Potato Supply Statement

II 1952 Potato Supply Statement (for the entire year)

III 1952 Potato Supply Statement (according to quarters)

IV Estimated Differences between the 1952 Potato Harvest and 1952 Requirement

V Enlargement on Table IV

VI Early Potato Yields According to Ten-day Periods

VII Storage of Potatoes

50X1-HUM

I Early Potatoes

1. The yield of early potatoes for 1951 was unbalanced. In comparison with the requirements, too few potatoes were harvested in the first two ten-day periods of July. Towards the end of July early potatoes regularly flooded the market, thereby causing losses. In order to bring in the early potatoes sooner and avoid later market floodings, the farmers were encouraged to comply by means of such measures as favorable weights and prices as well as delivery contracts with earliest possible delivery dates.

2. A large number of the farmers refused to conclude these contracts. Instead of early agreements for 260,000 metric tons, only early date agreements for 16,000 metric tons were concluded. An increase of 15,000 metric tons was shown over 1951 production up to 20 July 1952, however, despite a poorer yield and a later harvest. A warm spell caused winter and summer grain to ripen immediately after one another with the result that collection was about 20,000 metric tons behind by the end of July. This caused diffi-

cultics in the supply situation, especially in Saxony. There, 100 percent cultivation and a yield of 130 cwts a hectare was reported, whereas actually cultivation amounted to 75 percent and the yield amounted to only 90 cwts a hectare. The 1952 cultivation plan for early potatoes envisioned an area of 52,500 hectares, of which 41,278 hectares was realized. In addition 35,000 hectares were under private cultivation, which yield on the average 121 cwts a hectare or a gross total of about 425,000 metric tons. Only about 210,000 metric tons, or 50 percent, were delivered, in contrast to the usual 65 percent.

3. This indicates that in 1952 a larger part of the yield was withheld by the farmers for fodder. Moreover, the 1952 stocks of swine are 2,160,000 head higher than in 1951. The monthly potato fodder requirement amounts to 700,000 metric tons. Less early potatoes are delivered to the market because the cultivated area is so widely distributed among small farms where more early potatoes are used. In view of these changes in the economy and the storing of the potatoes only up until 30 June 1952 (whereas in 1951 it was up until 31 July), the reduction of the area to be cultivated in 1953 from 52,500 to 42,500 hectares could not be approved. The decisive factor is the number of the seedlings available, which are economic and distributed according to plan.

4. The following proposals are made for 1953:

a. Agriculture

1) An increase from the planned 42,500 hectares to at least 50,000 hectares in the area devoted to early potatoes

2) Additional early seedlings for expansion and consumer cultivation

3) Additional cultivation of early potatoes in collectives

4) Measures for the increase of cultivation of pregerminated seedlings by

a) Propagation and grafting

b) Procurement of equipment for pregermination (Vorkeimung)

b. Trade and Supply

1) Precise ascertaining of requirements by the trade agencies and the other customers up to 30 April 1953, divided according to ten-day periods.

c. Collection and Purchase

1) Requiring cultivators of early potatoes to conclude delivery contracts with VEAB in the law on required deliveries and purchasing for 1953.

2) Conclusion of delivery contracts between producer and VEAB through 10 June 1953.

5. The apparent requirement of early potatoes and in part of "mittelfrueh" potatoes for 1953 is as follows:

July	130,000 metric tons
August	180,000 metric tons
Total	310,000 metric tons

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II "Mittelfrueh" Potatoes

1. The area cultivated for "mittelfrueh" potatoes in 1952 amounted to 47,800 hectares. Figuring an average yield of 129 metric tons a hectare, a gross yield of 617,000 metric tons is expected. The total potato requirement shall be met from this in the period from the middle of August to the middle of September and is figured as follows:

Population, etc.	240,000 metric tons
Fodder	700,000 metric tons
Seedlings	60,000 metric tons
	1,000,000 metric tons

Therefore there will be a shortage of about 300,000 metric tons of "mittelfrueh" potatoes, which amount would cover the period up till the late potato harvest. In 1952 this would be later than usual.

2. The state secretariate has ordered the district councillors and the VVEAB to collect at least 10 percent of the goals by 10 September 1952, 15 percent by 20 September 1952, and 20 percent by 30 September 1952. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has passed out similar orders.

3. The following is suggested for 1953:

   a. Planned cultivation of "mittelfrueh" potatoes in an area of 70,000 hectares

   b. Cultivation of "mittelfrueh" potatoes in key points of the sugar beet districts.

   c. Forcing of the "mittelspaet" potato Sabina, which up till now has been neglected.

III Late Potatoes

1. A comparison of the 1952 statement with that of 1951 reveals the following picture regarding edible potatoes.

2. The amount of 222,000 metric tons edible potatoes from the 1951 harvest were issued in addition to the amount planned for 1952. The reason for this was as follows: the requirements estimate for storing by the Ministry of Trade and Procurement was accepted without cuts. Accordingly, the customers estimated the current yield as low. This uncovered requirement would make increasing demands on the current yield. The Ministry must therefore take measures to regulate the reports about the current yields.

3. According to the statement 3,122,000 metric tons of edible potatoes including purchase were on hand in 1951. In 1952 only 2,900,000 metric tons of potatoes are planned for general consumption. In 1951 the goals were fulfilled by 93 percent. The 1952 statement bases its estimate of 2,900,000 metric tons edible potatoes on 100 percent fulfillment of the delivery quota. The chances of purchasing of potatoes in early 1953 seem slight. In 1951 production and planned production of potatoes were about even; in 1952 there will be a deficit of 3,110,000 metric tons.

4. In 1951, 333,000 metric tons of potatoes were processed; in 1952 it was planned to process 695,000 metric tons. In addition there were in 1951 only 44,000 metric tons of fodder potatoes; in 1952 there were planned 135,000 metric tons. Together, 803,000 tons of potatoes for industrial purposes and fodder potatoes were planned for 1952 in comparison with 377,000 tons for 1951.

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5. The following subsidies will be required for the production of fodder flakes and for the storing of potatoes for industrial purposes.

fodder flakes	7,550,000 east marks
storage costs of potato for industry	3,370,000 east marks
	10,920,000 east marks

6. In order to make the population completely independent of the purchase of edible potatoes on the outside and save considerable amounts of money, it is suggested that the amount of processed potatoes be reduced. If 200,000 metric tons of potatoes received less processing, the following sums would be saved.

Cost of storage, transportation, interest expenses, and losses for 150,000 metric tons of potatoes for industrial purposes	3,370,000 east marks
Cost of purchases at double price of 200,000 metric tons of edible potatoes	14,000,000 east marks
	17,370,000 east marks

7. A further saving of 5,000,000 east marks could be made, if the 150,000 metric tons planned for flakes could be reduced to 75,000 metric tons.

8. According to the latest reports some flake factories, previously reported available by the State Secretary of Food and Luxury Industries, are not ready to produce, so that the planned amount will not be able to be met for lack of capacity.

9. In September an amount of about 26,000 metric tons is planned for processing into starch. Mainly "mittelfrueh" potatoes must be used for this. Because "mittelfrueh" potatoes are sorely needed for the population, because no potatoes for industry are to be expected from "mittelfrueh" potatoes, and since it would be irresponsible to deliver edible potatoes to the Pyritz potato factory, it is suggested that potatoes be processed for starch only from 1 October 1952 on.

10. In addition it is suggested that the surplus 27,000 metric tons allotted for export in the third quarter be disposed of in a short time in West Berlin depending on the current crop of edible potatoes, and if necessary to transfer the rest in the fourth quarter. Moreover in view of the deficit of 3,110,000 metric tons the statement should be examined to see whether the planned export can be met in the full amount of 100,000 metric tons.

11. In regard to the fixing of the amounts to be stored at 125 tons and other uncertain factors of the statement, the stocks of 347,000 metric tons of edible potatoes are too low to cover the needs in the first and second quarter of 1953. It is suggested to increase the stocks by at least 600,000 metric tons by collecting and storing the difference of 253,000 metric tons not in factory potatoes but in edible potatoes. If part of the edible potatoes were not required and were processed for starch, then the subsidy required for them would be much less than if the edible potatoes had to be bought at double price for processing. The processing of about 200,000 metric tons of factory potatoes would require purchase of an additional 17,370,000 east marks in the early part of 1953. The processing of this amount of edible potatoes would only require about 6,000,000 additional east marks.

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Attachment I

50X1-HUM

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Potato Supply Statement 1951
(in thousands of metric tons)

Planned	5,000	
Actual	4,650	(93 percent fulfillment)

	of which		Stocks on 1 January 1952
1.	Early edible potatoes till 31 August 1951	233	
2.	Edible potatoes for all consumers except exports from 1 September 1951	2,957	70
3.	Exports to Poland and Hungary	150	
4.	Uncontrolled sales to West Berlin	80	
5.	Seedling potatoes	500	
6.	Starch	240	
7.	Alcohol	93	
8.	Fattening for swine	218	
9.	Fodder potatoes	44	
10.	Credit for early and seedling potatoes	75	
11.	Loss	60	
		4,650	
12.	Purchase for the first half of 1952		130
13.	50 percent back delivery		30
14.	Import of early potatoes		5
	Consumption in the first half of 1952		235

Consumption of edible potatoes, except early potatoes, from the 1951 harvest

Position number 2	2,957
Position number 12	130
Position number 13	30
Position number 14	5
	3,122

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Attachment II

Potato Supply Statement 1952
(for the entire year)
(in thousands of metric tons)

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Planned according to the "Vw." Plan		5,000
Planned according to disposition		4,968
1. Early edible potatoes till 31 August 1952		277
2. Edible potatoes for all customers		2,770
2a. Operative reserve		100
2b. Reserve stores		20
3. Exports of edible potatoes		100
4. Seedling potatoes		500
5. Starch		490
6. Alcohol ✓		55
7. Fodder flakes		150
8. Fresh fodder potatoes		135
9. Credit for the purchase of swine, first half of 1952	41,000	
second half of 1952	124,000	165
10. Credit for early and seedling potatoes		75
11. 1951 advance credit for 1952		21
12. Loss because of transportation and storage		100
13. Inventory as of 30 June 1953		10
		4,968

Edible potatoes available from the 1952 harvest		
Position 2	2,770	
Position 2a	100	
Position 2b	20	
Position 13	10	
	2,900	
Consumed in 1951	3,122	
Excess of 1951 over 1952	222	

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Attachment III

Potato Supply Statement 1952
(according to quarters)
(in thousands of metric tons)

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		Third Quarter 1952	Fourth Quarter 1952	First Quarter 1953	Second Quarter 1953
I	Supply	1,000	3,968		
II	Distribution				
1.	Early edible potatoes till 31 August 1952	277	-		
2.	Edible potatoes for all customers	239	2,214	109	208
2a.	Operative reserve		100		
2b.	Reserve stores		20		
3.	Exports of edible potatoes	34	66		
4.	Seedling potatoes	50	450		
5.	Starch	26	276	188	
6.	Alcohol		20	35	
7.	Fodder flakes		65	65	20
8.	Fresh fodder potatoes	30	43	39	23
9.	Credit for the purchase of swine First two quarters of 1952 - 41 Third quarters of 1952 - 33	74	91		
10.	Credit for early and seedling potatoes	55	20		
11.	1951 advance credit for 1952	21			
12.	Loss from transportation and storage	6	22		72
		812	3,387	436	323
	Temporary stock	188	769	333	10
					+ reserve
		1,000	4,156	769	333
			- 188		
			3,968		

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Attachment IV

The estimated 1952 potato harvest, its disposition, and the difference between harvest and requirement. The amounts are expressed in thousands of metric tons.

Item		Brandenburg	Mecklenburg	Saxony-Anhalt	Thuringia	Saxony	Berlin	Total
1.	Estimated potato yield	3,407.9	3,482.7	2,950.3	1,616.2	2,201.8	32.8	15,691.7
2.	Required deliveries "V.-Plan"	1,307.0	1,137.5	1,181.0	493.0	849.5	32.0	5,000.0
3.	Requirements of self-suppliers (3 cwt. a person)	126.0	144.0	156.0	117.0	117.0	-	660.0
4.	Seed potato requirements (25 cwt / hectare)	549.6	487.0	506.0	256.4	327.4	5.8	2,132.2
5.	Fodder requirements for swine	1,652.0	1,755.0	2,552.6	1,385.8	1,440.9	28.2	8,814.5
6.	Fodder requirements for fowl	70.5	60.3	83.5	51.5	68.7	5.4	339.9
7.	6 percent loss	126.0	140.7	106.1	67.4	81.0	-	521.2
		3,831.1	3,724.5	4,585.2	2,371.1	2,384.5	71.4	17,467.8
8.	Deduct: purchase swine	35.3	27.3	46.5	23.2	32.1	.6	165.0
9.	Seed potato farms placed at the disposal of agriculture	123.0	104.0	129.0	60.0	82.0	2.0	500.0
		3,672.8	3,593.2	4,409.7	2,287.9	2,770.4	68.8	16,802.8
10.	Deficit	264.9	110.5	1,459.4	671.7	568.6	36.0	3,111.1

Attachment V

The following tables are explanations of or enlargements on the figures given in the preceding table.

To item number one	Brandenburg	Mecklenburg	Saxony-Anhalt	Thuringia	Saxony	Berlin	DDR
Area under cultivation for early potatoes	9,667	9,092	11,266	4,916	6,020	317	41,278
Area under cultivation for "mittelfrueh" potatoes	9,732	9,418	10,977	9,955	7,541	205	47,828
Area under cultivation for late potatoes	184,990	165,761	178,301	87,127	120,080	1,783	738,042
Total 1952 area under cultivation for potatoes expressed in hectares	204,389	184,271	200,544	101,998	133,641	2,305	827,148
Estimated yield, cwts. for each hectare, of:							
Early potatoes	126	140	123	110	95	98	121
"Mittelfrueh" potatoes	145	165	125	90	121	145	129
Late potatoes	170	193	150	169	171	150	170
Yield in metric tons of:							
Early potatoes	121,000	127,300	138,600	54,100	57,200	3,100	502,100
"Mittelfrueh" potatoes	141,100	155,400	137,200	89,600	91,200	3,000	617,500
Late potatoes	3,145,000	3,200,000	2,674,500	1,472,500	2,033,400	26,700	12,572,100
Total	3,407,900	3,482,700	2,950,300	1,616,200	2,201,800	32,800	13,691,700
To item number three							
Number of self-suppliers (in thousands)	420	480	520	390	390	-	2,200
Requirements (5 cwts. for each person a year, totals in thousands of metric tons)	126	144	156	117	117	-	660
To item number four							
1952 cultivation plan (in thousands of hectares)	219.9	194.8	202.4	102.6	130.9	2.3	852.9
Requirements of seed potato farms 25 cwts. for each acre (total in thousands of metric tons)	549.6	487.0	506.0	256.4	327.4	5.8	2,132.2

Attachment V

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

To item number five	Brandenburg	Mecklenburg	Saxony-Anhalt	Thuringia	Saxony	Berlin	DDR
Number of swine							
Breed sows (in thousands)	174.5	187.8	237.6	124.2	131.9	2.0	858.0
Boars (in thousands)	3.5	4.3	5.7	3.4	3.4	0.1	20.4
Other swine (in thousands)	1,239.9	1,315.8	1,928.3	1,048.6	1,089.3	21.5	6,643.4
Total swine (in thousands)	1,417.9	1,507.9	2,171.6	1,176.2	1,224.6	23.6	7,521.8
Fodder requirements (in thousands of metric tons) (required for each broodsow, 500 kilograms)	87.3	93.9	118.8	62.1	65.9	1.0	429.0
for boars (required for each boar, 730 kilograms)	2.5	3.1	4.1	2.5	2.5	0.1	14.8
Other swine (1,000 kilograms required for each one) (126% turnover)	1,562.2	1,658.0	2,429.7	1,321.2	1,372.5	27.1	8,370.7
Total fodder requirement	1,652.0	1,755.0	2,552.6	1,385.8	1,440.9	28.2	8,814.5
To item number six							
Fowl (in thousands)	3,527.2	3,017.0	4,173.0	2,572.8	3,434.8	270.0	16,994.8
Fodder requirement (in thousands of metric tons) (20 kilograms for each)	70.5	60.3	83.5	51.5	68.7	5.4	339.9

50X1-HUM

Attachment VI

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50X1-HUM

Early Potato Yields According to Ten-day Periods.

Period	1952 Quota	1952 Fulfillment	Plus or Minus	1951 Fulfillment	1951 Plus or Minus Compared with 1952
First ten days of July	15,700	10,035	-5,665	2,581	-7,454
Second ten days of July	32,100	34,221	2,121	26,912	-7,309
Third ten days of July	45,300	47,539	2,239	54,422	6,883
First ten days of August	43,100	26,043	-17,057	29,238	3,195
Second ten days of August	55,500	72,499	16,999	44,372	-28,127
Third ten days of August	69,500	86,241	16,741	71,409	-14,832
	261,200	276,578	15,378	228,934	-47,644

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Storage of Temporary Stocks of Potatoes in 1952 in Accordance with the Potato Supply Statement (thousands of metric tons)

Total according to the quarterly statement from which		769
I Total edible potatoes		
1) through the trade organizations for the current delivery in the first quarter of 1953		349
2) through the VEAB		109
a) for the current delivery in the second quarter of 1953		208
b) Reserve stores		20
c) Remaining stock		10
	Total	238
of which		
aa) in VEAB storehouses and silos		138
bb) on "E.u.L." contract at nationalized farms, collectives, and self-employed farmers		100
II Total factory potatoes of which		308
for starch		188
for alcohol		35
for fodder flakes		85

The total factories are to be stored as follows:

a) Starch factories, estimated	88
b) Distilleries, estimated	35
c) Flakes factories, estimated	35
d) VEAB	150

The costs arising from the storing of the potatoes will be erased by the monthly increases in price.

The following costs arise for the VEAB from the storage of factory potatoes:

1. For storage and taking out of storage	10.00
2. "Stroh abzueglich Altwert"	3.20
3. Custodial charges	1.80
	15.00 east marks each ton

Accordingly the costs for 150,000 tons amount to 2,250,000 east marks. In addition there are costs covering transportation from the VEAB silos to their loading places which amount to about 500,000 east marks. There are shrinkage losses amounting to 500,000 east marks and interest losses amounting to 120,000 east marks. The additional costs amount to 3,370,000 east marks.

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