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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

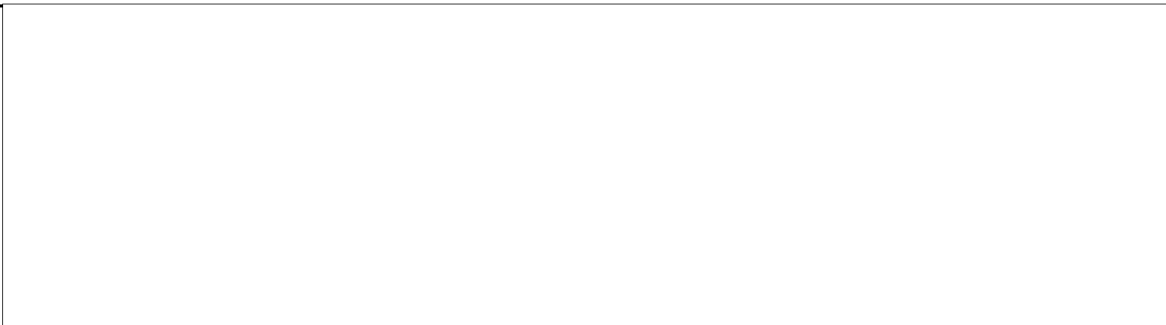
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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Department of Chemistry at the University of Halle	DATE DISTR.	27 January 1954
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	NO. OF PAGES	4 50X1-HUM
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT	[REDACTED]
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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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REPORT

[Redacted]

COUNTRY : East Germany

DATE DISTR. 30 Nov 53

SUBJECT : Department of Chemistry at the University of Halle

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED :

[Redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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DATE ACQUIRED

[Redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION :

[Redacted]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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ORGANIZATION OF CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

1. The Department of Chemistry, which is included in the Division of Sciences of the University of Halle (Rector: Prof. Dr. AGRICOLA; Acting Rector: Prof. STERN, a historian and Assistant Rector, and SED member) is organized into the following sections:

a. Organic Chemistry: Prof. Dr. LANGENBECK, full professor of organic chemistry, is Director of the Department of Chemistry, and is simultaneously the director of the new Institute for Catalyst Research at Rostock. His main field of interest is fermentation chemistry and enzymology.

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b. Inorganic Chemistry: The chair for inorganic chemistry is held by Prof. FUNK, the Assistant Rector for Scientific Planning.

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c. Physical Chemistry: The chair for this section is held by Prof. SAUERWALD.

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- d. Chemical Technology: Prof. RUNGE, [redacted] holds this chair. His scientific interests include organic syntheses, fundamental high polymer research, and carbohydrate chemistry. He recently delivered a lecture at the Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker meeting at Hamburg.

Faculty

- 2. Assistant Professors and assistants include the following:
 - a. Dozent Dr. LAUTSCH, active in theoretical chemistry, and an active member of the SED.
 - b. Private Assistant Dr. FÜRST, a research associate at ALCID (formerly Fahlberg List), Magdeburg. His special fields of activity include organic syntheses and plant insecticides.
 - c. Prof. Dr. VOSS, lecturer in chemistry of carbohydrates, and chief of the rayon research laboratory at Filmfabrik, Wolfen.

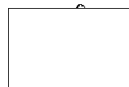
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Evaluation of Training

- 3. In general, the training that a student receives is fairly good. However students currently are experiencing considerable difficulties in their research work because of serious space limitations. In an effort to relieve the pressure, the University of Halle (and probably others as well) has found it necessary to restrict the number of students that enter the Department of Chemistry because of the fact that the total number of enrolled first-year university students has markedly increased in the last year. The shortage of laboratory space has been alleviated in part by the fact that some of the advanced students currently are using the laboratory facilities at Buna/Schkopau after plant working hours, and it is hoped that the space shortage problem will be partly solved in 1954 upon completion of the new Chemical Institute building that is now under construction.
- 4. Graduate research thesis topics are a matter of free choice, and generally are supported by University funds. However, specific research assignments may be assigned, financed, and evaluated by the D.D.R. Chemical Ministry or by the Academy of Sciences. Publication in West German journals must have prior approval.
- 5. The curriculum for chemistry students is rigidly fixed. The stress on political indoctrination, through the medium of formal lectures, and on formal instruction in the Russian language is sufficiently strong so that a student has little time to attend lectures on subjects in his field. Scholarship candidacy examinations are given at the end of every scholastic year. In these examinations, special emphasis is placed on the student's knowledge of the social sciences. As a rule, a student's program will include one or two summers in the

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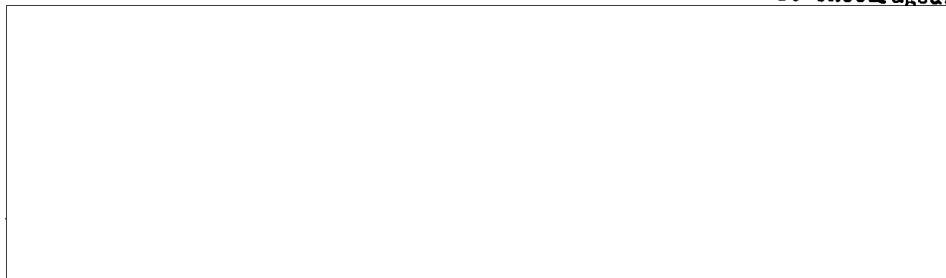
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employ of a chemical industry, the purpose of which is to help him to establish contacts rather than to broaden his technical background. In addition, frequent plant trips, or visits to factories are encouraged.

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