

REFERENCE CENTER LIBRARY

OPE
PLD
12

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. []

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian and U.S. Zone)

DATE DISTR. 22 April 1948

SUBJECT Plans for New Party; SED Prints Leaflet for U.S. Zone Elections

NO. OF PAGES 25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED [] 25X1

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) []

DATE OF INFO [] 25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. []

[]

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF J. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED. HOWEVER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN BODY OF THE FORM MAY BE UTILIZED AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE RECEIVING AGENCY.

* Except as noted
THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

"COPY"

1. The Sozialdemokrat and the Nationalzeitung of 19 April 1948 reported a public meeting in Berlin-Wedding, in the course of which Wilhelm Pieck declared that "The three parties in the Russian Zone are not elastic enough. We would therefore be glad to fulfill the desire of former Nazi Party members for a new party of their own. Naturally, we will keep close watch over it: the new party can only be one member of our anti-fascist bloc."

Walter Ulbricht is reported to have said on 15 April that such a party would offer great advantages if properly developed, since the Russians have realized that the SED is failing to reach many voters in the eastern zone. Ulbricht warned that the new party would be worthless if it appeared only to be a new branch of the SED. The SED would therefore strongly oppose it.

3. Ulbricht added that the SED could not permit the CDU and LDP to make any great gains in the next election. The new controlled party would be well-suited to receive the discontented elements. The Russians, according to Ulbricht, were considering whether to make concessions regarding the eastern boundary in order to attract refugees and former Nazis.

4. Franz Dahlem has stated that the new party would win more confidence if the leaders were previously unknown. The SED would therefore take great care in choosing those leaders.

5. The SED Vorstand has published a special election leaflet for the Hessian and Bavarian elections, 200,000 copies of which were prepared for each of the contests. The leaflets, which were printed at the Neues Deutschland plant from the paper's own supply of newsprint, were sent out on 19 April. The editors of the propaganda were Klupsch and Dielitsch, from Dortmund, and Ledwahn, also from the Ruhr. The action was taken at the request of Leo Bauer, Walter Fisch, and Fritz Sperling.

Document No. 1

NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DBA REG. 77/1763

Date: 19/4/78 By: [] 25X1

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	RMM	X	HAVY	X	NSRB														
ARMY			AIR	X															

BY CABLE

25X1