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INFORMATION

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1. [Redacted] Major A. L. Makarov, Deputy Chief of the Internal Affairs section of the UVD, SMA, inspected the school of the Berlin police at Oberschöneweide. Makarov expressed satisfaction with what he saw, and before departing made a few "unofficial" remarks to the staff, the substance of which follows:
2. "It has become obvious to all rational people that Berlin is doomed to starvation and extreme economic hardship under quadripartite rule. The Soviet authorities were, from the beginning, skeptical of such an arrangement, but agreed to it in the hope that the Western Allies would observe the spirit of the Yalta and Potsdam agreements. Time has proved such a hope to be ill-founded. The Berlin Komendatura, in particular, has provided an excellent example of the obstructionist tactics of the Anglo-Saxons, who, in their desire to injure Soviet interests, have become completely oblivious to the interests of the Berlin working population. Therein lies the cause for Berlin's ineffective city government. The frequent use of the veto power by the American and British commandants has prevented the enactment of many important measures, including several which were designed to improve the working conditions and salaries of the city police force. This situation has been altered lately, and for the better, as far as the police were concerned. Similar measures will have to be taken in regard to other branches of the city administration. It is believed by many in Karlshorst that the lot of the average Berlin working man could best be improved if the Magistrat were made responsible to one occupying power only, thus eliminating the cumbersome Komendatura machinery. This change in the governing of the city could be achieved even though the western Allies were to stay in Berlin indefinitely."
3. Makarov said that his remarks were off the record and that he spoke not in his official capacity but merely as "an old-time police officer among colleagues".

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