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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 18 October 1948

SUBJECT Police Training in Fürstenwalde

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SUPPLEMENT REPORT NO. [redacted]

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1. About four or five thousand former prisoners of war are currently receiving police training in the barracks of the former Resettlement Camp (Umsiedlerlager) at Fürstenwalde. The majority of these men were formerly members of the Free Germany Committee (Nationalkomite Freies Deutschland) in the USSR, and were returned to Germany within the past six months. The courses are also attended by three representatives from each of the Land Ministries of the Interior in the Soviet zone.

2. The instruction is given by German and Russian personnel. It is both theoretical and practical. The training school has extensive facilities, including a firing range, motor pool, and armory.

3. During the week of 13 September the Fürstenwalde school was inspected by Walter Ulbricht and Franz Dahlem. On this occasion Ulbricht gave a speech with approximately the following content:

The police of the Eastern Zone is being completely reorganized. The first phase in the creation of a new political order in the Eastern Zone has now been completed. The zone needs a strong authority (Macht-Apparat) which will be capable, possibly without the assistance of an occupying power, of protecting the achievement of the zone to date and also of securing the further development of the zone toward a socialistic state. Each individual (policeman) must be not only completely reliable politically -- he must also be completely familiar with individual and crew-served weapons. The police of the Eastern Zone should be more than a police organization in the usual sense of the word. It is possible that it will also have to assume the tasks of the occupying power. To achieve that, a complete political and military reorganization of the police is essential. It is planned that the most reliable party activists will all have to serve a term in the police. As far as the police is concerned, there can be no consideration for "blocks" and "groups". The police will have to assume the tasks which are now done through the authority of the Soviet Army. The planned reorganization will be carried out with the assistance and advice of the Soviet authorities.

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