

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 16 December 1949

SUBJECT SED Officials not Expecting Eastern Zone Government before February 1949

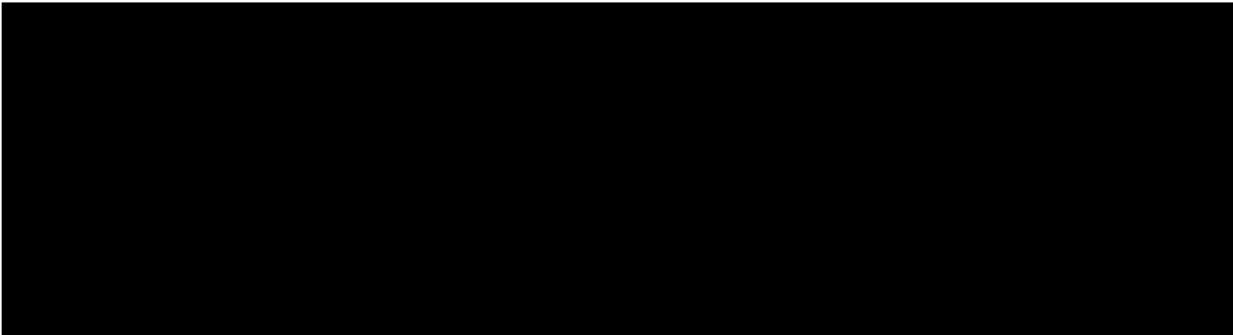
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X6



1. Widespread opinion in SED circles is that no government will be announced for the Soviet Zone until the end of February 1949. This does not preclude further centralization of DDK and GAI functions which are tantamount to a government, but it is believed that in deference to public opinion the Soviets will permit the Eastern Zone Germans to set up a government in response only to a "spontaneous" request from the Volkskongress. By this means they maintain some pretense to parliamentary formalities.
2. Because the machinery to call the Volkskongress into session is cumbersome, requiring petitions and resolutions originating with the Volksausschüsse and the calling of the Länderkongress by the Länderausschüsse, etc., it is unlikely the Volkskongress could convene for several weeks.

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