

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

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1. The Information Office (Amt für Information), headed by Gerhard Eisler, which is located in the Thälmannplatz (Wilhelmplatz), is not in a position to accommodate all its departments in this building and must seek rooms in various other buildings.
2. Before taking over the Information Office, Eisler had a long conversation with Malenkov, the chairman of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.
3. For the year (sic) Eisler has at his disposal for his work 20,500,000 east marks and five million west marks. In connection with this it must be borne in mind that the costs for the five so-called state information offices (Landesinformationsämter) must be borne by the Länder concerned.
4. Daily at 2:30 P.M. there is held a session for the issuance of orders (Befehlsausgabe) at which the editors of the East Berlin papers must be present.
5. Subject to the Information Office are the press, cinema, theatre, cultural organizations, all intellectual groups, the DEFA, radio, the universities, and various smaller organizations.
6. There is a special bureau for Western Germany (Sonderdezernat Westdeutschland) whose job is to inject false news reports into the neighboring West German papers, which must then be retracted. Thereby it is hoped to destroy the credibility of the West German press.
7. Tasks of the Information Office are:
 - a. The stabilization of opinion in German politics with especial consideration for the attitude toward the Soviet Union.
 - b. Reorganization of propaganda, centralization of the existing news sources, unified direction of the propaganda means, exact control of all political currents.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-



50X1

- c. Ideological aid (Betreuung) to the Communist Party in the western zones.
 - d. Preparation of the SED for acceptance into the Cominform as the twelfth section.
8. Especial importance will also be placed upon the bureaux (Dezernate) for defensive and aggressive propaganda. The bureau for defensive propaganda must repulse all Western attacks and present challenges in return. The special bureau (Sonderdezernat) for aggressive propaganda will give special consideration to events in the western zones. It will carry on attacks against the west-zone régime, against the occupying powers, and against the Marshall Plan, and exploit various disagreements between the western zones and the conquerors.

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