

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT
CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT

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- Postal censorship offices in Land Thuringia are located in Altenburg (M 51/K 27), Eisenach (L 51/H 76), Gera (M 51/K 06), at Post Office I in Erfurt (L 51/J 36) and in Weimar (M 51/J 57). They are staffed either with SSD officers or with Russians who speak fluent German and wear PDJ uniforms. All mail from Western Germany and West Berlin, all letters which appear suspicious because of their weight, and every parcel which, because of its appearance, is believed to contain newspapers, periodicals and other printed matter is subject to censorship. At the same time postmen at points of destination have been directed to select, for spot checks, parcels from the West which, from their appearance, could contain printed matter.
- The censorship officer at the censorship office in Post Office I in Erfurt is Walter Goebel who resides on Kaldowweg in Erfurt. At the same time he also works in a liaison capacity between Post Office I and the SSD [redacted] 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
- A directive issued in Leipzig in November 1950 stated that all suspicious mail such as parcels, packages and letters of excessive weight from the Western Zones of Germany should be sent to a secret censorship office called Rueckbriefstelle which is located in Post Office C 2 on Brandenburgerstrasse. Mail received there is opened surreptitiously and, to preclude duplication, is marked with a circular stamp resembling that used for filling in postal zone numbers. These stamps are either green, red, black or violet, their color being changed at irregular intervals.
- Ordinary letters from points of origin in the Soviet Zone as well as from the Western Zones of Germany and West Berlin are subjected to a watch list check in which letters of persons under surveillance are removed for special handling. Special attention is given to mail from Berlin which bears a Soviet Zone return address or has such an address written under a stamp. A general rule is to regard every stamp with suspicion.

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