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INFORMATION REPORT

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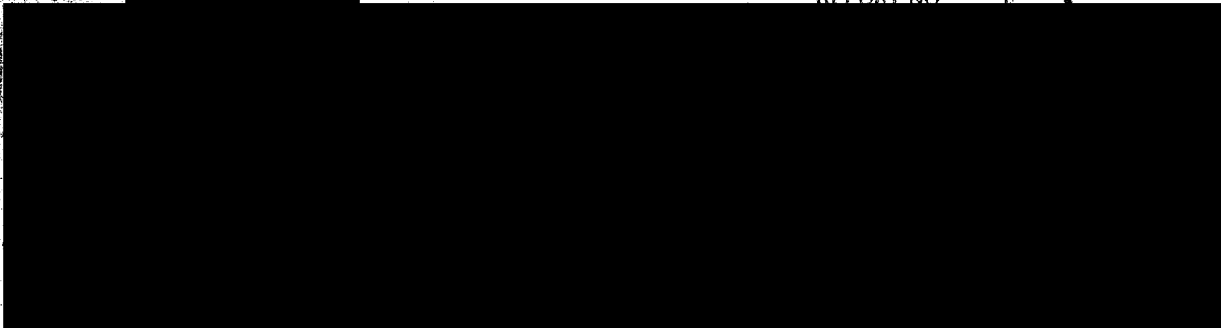
25X1C

DO NOT CIRCULATE

SUPPLEMENT REPORT NO.

25X1X

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1. President Wilhelm Pieck, Deputy Minister President Walter Ulbricht, and Georg Handke, Minister of Foreign and Domestic Trade, are at present visiting in Moscow. It is surmised in the Foreign Ministry that their trip foreshadows possible peace talks between East Germany and the Soviet Union.
2. Dismissals of Foreign Ministry employees are being made on a large scale, apparently for security reasons in every case. Minister Georg Dertinger's personal office is being completely reorganized; the only member of his staff to remain is Helene Berner. The discharges are being made for the following reasons:
 - a. Close relatives in the West.
 - b. Officer rank in the German armed forces.
 - c. A record of having been a prisoner of war of one of the western powers.
3. A Catholic church convention is being planned for 1952, to take place in Berlin. This plan will be announced shortly.

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No Change in Class.

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