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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 29 August 1952

SUBJECT Recruitment of Medical Personnel

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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

[REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] there was a confidential meeting in the Central Committee (ZK) of the SED on 20 or 21 April 1952; this was attended by Dr. Ludwig, Frau Jenny Matern (Secretary of State, Ministry of Health) and representatives of the ZK.
2. At this meeting it was decided to build up a German Red Cross organization for the DDR. The structure of this organization was to be similar to that in the Federal Republic and it was foreseen that there would be an honorary President and a Senior Secretary. Dr. Ludwig was appointed to the latter post.
3. Since this meeting the following has happened:
 - a. Dr. Ludwig was away from the Ministry, in Dresden, in early June, 1952 and it was understood by senior officials of the Ministry of Health that he would unofficially take up his Red Cross work in Dresden on 10 June 1952.
 - b. The matter of the Red Cross was treated as Secret in the Ministry of Health.
 - c. Dr. Friedrich Mehlmack, head of the Medical Department of the Hauptverwaltung fuer Ausbildung (HVA) temporarily moved into the Ministry of Health in early June 1952 to work on personnel matters concerned with the new Red Cross organization.
4. It is now believed by senior officials of the Ministry of Health, basing their beliefs partly on Dr. Mehlmack's arrival and partly on hints dropped by Dr. Ludwig, that the real function of the Red Cross will be to recruit doctors, nurses and other medical personnel who could be used by the HVA.

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