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SECURITY INFORMATION

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Minister Fritz Selbmann's Views on Development  
25X1 in East German Industry.

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1. [ ] Ministry of Smelting and Ore Mining  
[ ] Minister Fritz Selbmann said that by

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1 January 1953 all subsidies on metals (amounting to about DM 380,000,000) would be cancelled and prices would be levelled up to normal. As a consequence, prices of steel, copper, tin etc. would be greatly increased.

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2. Referring to supplies for the East German national army, Selbmann said that instead of a 17% increase in production in 1953 which had originally been planned, the Council of Ministers (Ministerrat) had now adopted the planned figure of 25.2%. Investments would be raised from 375,000,000 DM to 850,000,000 DM. Of these, DM 600,000,000 had already been approved by a decree of the Council of Ministers and the remaining 250,000,000 were expected to be authorized shortly.

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