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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract [REDACTED]

PLANS AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE BERLIN YOUTH FESTIVAL (1 p; German; undated)

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This document gives a brief account of plans and preparations for the World Youth Festival to be held in Berlin in August 1951:

Participants: Approximately 2 millions from East Germany, 250,000 from West Germany, and 40,000 from foreign countries. It is presumed that participants will come from 85 countries.

Office: Located in the skyscraper on the Alexanderplatz, with over 200 office workers. **Head of the Organization Bureau:** Erich Honecker; other activities, Ewald; and for West Germany, Pastor Oberhof from Bremen.

Schools in East Germany show a full display of signs for the festival.

The FDJ (Free German Youth) created the following committees: Education, Culture, Mass Sports, Finance, Economy, Transportation, Gifts, and Exhibitions.

Appeal to grown-ups (appeal by Grohtewohl).

Public rallies are permitted.

Special work shifts in factories.

Savings drive by the youth.

The Government of the German Democratic Republic has allocated 150,000,000 [East marks] as first payment.

A new sports arena will be built on Stalinallee, to seat 5,600, and with a fighting ring measuring 30 x 20 meters.

A large swimming pool in Friedrichshain has been almost completed.

Preparations have been started in the Wuhlheide for an International Pioneer Republic [probably "Young Pioneers" - Communist youth too young for the FDJ].

The numerous available youth homes will be expanded.

All affairs requiring additional transportation are forbidden from 15 July to 8 September 1951. Also forbidden during this period are open-air rallies.

Beginning [of festival] on 5 August 1951, when 20,000 peace doves will be released.

A great demonstration with approximately 1.5 million participants, against West Germany's remilitarization will take place on 12 August 1951. The youth will issue a declaration of being in line with the youth of the Soviet Union.

Final celebration in the Berlin Lustgarten on 19 August 1951.

Numerous sports affairs.

A total of 478,000 movie theater seats daily are available to the youth.

A meeting of Communist youth will be held in West Germany beforehand (presumably in Dortmund).

A large number of the participants will simply be taken right through Berlin.

Interzonal passes for participation will not be issued in West Germany.

See also other reports.

[This is a complete translation. Information seems to be as of [REDACTED]

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