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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
27 January 1954

BERLIN CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS - II

Moscow alleged to have stated that conference will be prolonged: On 7 January East German Foreign Minister Bolz said that while he was in Moscow Molotov told him that it would be the Soviet policy at the four-power conference to prolong the proceedings for months, if possible, to wear out Western patience and energy. While it is possible that Bolz is exaggerating an off-hand remark by Molotov in order to impress his colleagues with his own importance, there is ample precedent to justify giving credence to Bolz' statement.

Security controls increased by East Germans: The East Germans have taken the following additional measures to enforce their security control during the four-power conference:

- (1) Closed the area around the Soviet embassy on Unter den Linden to all persons not living there.
- (2) Ordered elevated and subway trains not to stop at the stations nearest the Soviet embassy.
- (3) Evacuated the Ministry of Education, located near the Soviet embassy, as a security measure.
- (4) Alerted the East German army (KVP) throughout the country.
- (5) Increased the strength of the police stationed in East Berlin to 14,450.

These measures are further indications of Soviet awareness of the East German hostility to the Communist regime.

Soviet delegates attempt to influence British and French: Foreign Ministers Eden and Bidault said that Soviet representatives at Berlin are going to great lengths to be amiable in their daily contacts with members of the British and French delegations. They indicated that the Soviet tactics aimed at driving a wedge between the United States and Great Britain and France are transparently clear and in marked contrast to the unconstructive tone of Molotov's opening speech.

State Dept. review completed

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Soviet ambassador Malik told one member of the British delegation that the USSR does not want a long drawn out discussion on the five-power conference, but just agreement that such a conference would be held.

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