

14 January 1953

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BDJ BANNED--Following the example of Hesse, the Interior Ministry of Lower Saxony, Hamburg, and Bremen have outlawed the BDJ and the affiliated Technical Service. The authorities of the three Laender were advised to break up the organizations of the BDJ, to close their offices, and to confiscate files, arms, and other property. The move was motivated by reference to the unconstitutional character of the BDJ. (Hamburg, Jan. 13, 1953, 1800 GMT--G)

3 WEST GERMAN STATES BAN RIGHT-WING BDJ

London, REUTERS, Radioteletype in English to New York, Jan. 13, 1953
2055 GMT--E

(Text)

Hanover--Three more West German states banned the right-wing League of German Youth--BDJ--today.

The states of Lower Saxony, Hamburg and Bremen--all ruled by Socialist governments--followed the state of Hesse which banned the group last week.

In Lower Saxony, the government ordered police to search all offices of the league and seize arms, documents, and other property.

The federal headquarters of the league in Mainz protested today that the ban was "dictated by political motives."

It said the league executive expected that the Federal Government of Chancellor Konrad Adenauer would "speak out against the arbitrary action" of the Socialist state government.

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ALTMAYER ON BDJ--Rhineland-Palatinate Minister-President Altmeyer stated today in a DPA interview that his government will continue to keep a close eye on the BDJ, which has established its headquarters in Rhineland-Palatinate following the ban pronounced by Hesse. No action will be taken, however, Altmeyer continued, before the Interior Ministers' conference scheduled for Jan. 15, where, under the chairmanship of Federal Interior Minister Lehr, the BDJ problem will be discussed. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 13, 1953, 1506 GMT--G)

BDJ BAN--The chairman of the Hamburg BDJ, Strobell, announced today that, in view of the outlawing of the BDJ in Hamburg, the BDJ would probably shift its headquarters to Schleswig-Holstein, possibly to the city of Pinnesberg. Strobell termed the Hamburg ban a "flagrant breach of the constitution." The BDJ is still free to work in only five Laender: North Rhine-Westphalia, Bavaria, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Schleswig-Holstein, and Rhineland-Palatinate. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 13, 1953, 2115 GMT--G)

BDJ ON LOWER SAXONY BAN--Commenting on the ban of the BDJ in Lower Saxony, the BDJ Federal Executive declared today that "democracy has lost a battle" and that the decision of the Lower Saxony Interior Minister was "dictated by party-political considerations." (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 13, 1953, 1854 GMT--G)

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HESSE MINISTER BANS BDJ ORGANIZATIONS

Hamburg, DPA, in German Hellschreiber to Germany, Jan. 9, 1953, 1226
GMT--G

(Summary)

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Wiesbaden--Hesse Minister of the Interior Heinrich Zinnkann today announced the dissolution of the BDJ for the entire Hesse area. The ban was pronounced on the basis of Article 9 of the basic law prohibiting all organizations whose activities violate the criminal code and the constitution. The records and files of all BDJ offices in Hesse were confiscated.

In a detailed explanation for the action Zinnkann pointed out, among other things, that the BDJ, under its second chairman Erhard Peters, had organized a partisan organization called a Technical Service, thereby violating international law, which also was binding on the basic law. Furthermore the BDJ had compiled lists of alleged collaborators and had made preparations for their liquidation in case of war. In separate actions the BDJ and its Technical Service had tried to obtain arms and had worked out plans for the robbery and theft of civilian motor vehicles.

REACTION TO BDJ BAN--The All-German Affairs Ministry censured today the considerably long time the Hesse Government required for ascertaining the anti-constitutional character of the BDJ. It must be expected that the BDJ will protest the verdict of the Karlsruhe Court. While the SPD welcomed the Hesse Government's decision, spokesmen of the Bavarian and Rhineland-Palatinate Governments voiced their surprise at this move, saying that the Laender Governments had agreed to abstain from individual actions. (Frankfort, Jan. 9, 1953, 1640 GMT--G)

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— HESSE BDJ DISSOLUTION--The main political parties in Hesse today commented on the dissolution of the BDJ in Hesse as follows: CDU Land Chairman Fay withheld comment until the Interior Ministry has motivated its action, but stated that the CDU will support any government measure designed to ward off threatening dangers; FDP Land Chairman Euler contended that the majority of the BDJ members are free of anti-democratic and unconstitutional tendencies; South Hesse SPD Chairman Schreider stated that the BDJ should have been banned long before by the Bonn Government; and BHE Land Chairman Czermak declared that the BHE is not interested in the least in the BDJ. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 9, 1953, 1849 GMT--G)

GDR CHURCH PAPER BANNED--The GDR Government has suddenly revoked the license for the publication of the Protestant youth magazine DIE STAFFETTE. A paper shortage was given as the official reason. Under the chairmanship of Bishop Dibelius, the executives of all Protestant land churches in East Germany have decided to negotiate with the Government with a view to having this ban lifted as soon as possible. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 9, 1953, 1754 GMT--G)

(OVER)

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the zonal border. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 9, 1953, 1146 GMT--G)

HEINEMANN PARTY--Former Minister Heinemann's All-German People's party has established a "Work Circle for All-German Questions" in Darmstadt which is open to anyone wanting to work for German neutrality but unwilling to join Heinemann's Party. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 9, 1952, 1238 GMT--G)

BDJ DISSOLUTION--Hamburg Deputy Mayor Nevermann announced today that Hamburg may shortly follow Hesse's and Lower Saxony's example in banning the BDJ. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 9, 1953, 1927 GMT--G). The BDJ Federal Executive, reestablished in office today in Mainz, noted that the Hesse decree closely follows Soviet General Chuikov's demand for abolition of the BDJ. (Hamburg, DPA, Jan. 9, 1953, 1942 GMT--G)