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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [ ]

(b)(3)

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany/West Germany

DATE DISTR. 24 November 1952

SUBJECT Research on Fowl Plague

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PLACE ACQUIRED Germany, Frankfurt

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Experimental research on fowl plague (Guehnerpest) has been going on in Germany for many years.\* An immunization serum specific for this disease is being produced by the Behring firm in Marburg/Lahn, Germany.
2. The leading specialists working in the Federal Republic on fowl plague are reported to be: Prof. Joseph Fortner of the Robert Koch Institute Berlin, Dr. (fnu) Sassenhof from Munich, and Dr. (fnu) Fritsche from the Government Veterinary Office (Veterinaeruntersuchungsamt) in Koblenz.\*\* In East Germany research on this disease has been undertaken by Prof. Hans Roehrer and Dr. (fnu) Moshlmann of the Riems Island Institute near Greifswald.
3. Three types of fowl plague are observable in 1952: Newcastle disease; Asiatic chicken plague, having a mortality period of from 1 to 2 days; and an atypical chicken plague, having a mortality period of from 3 to 5 days. The latter type is frequently introduced into Germany from Hungary through the importation of chicken carcasses. Apparently routine food inspection will not reveal the disease in frozen chicken carcasses.

\* Field Comment: The sections on epidemics of a veterinary report from the German Federal Republic (Tierseuchen-Bericht, Veterinaer-Referat, Bundesrepublik Deutschland) give the incidence of fowl cholera to be as follows:

Date of Report	Western Germany	Eastern Germany
1 March 1952	no report available	502
30 March 1952	394	n.r.s.
15 April 1952	303	n.r.s.
30 April 1952	352	n.r.s.
15 May 1952	298	362
31 May 1952	219	n.r.s.
15 June 1952	214	233
1 July 1952	332	n.r.s.
15 July 1952	486	107
1 August 1952	511	32
15 August 1952	594	n.r.s.

\*\* Field Comment: Dr. Sassenhof is not identifiable from available references.

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