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INFORMATION CONTROL INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY (ICIS) # 2

While waiting for Soviet authorities to relinquish the zone assigned to them, U.S. Information Control officers in BERLIN have conducted a rapid survey of the present state of information media. Their reports are tentative and necessarily incomplete, but one impression is general: BERLIN is a boom-town of entertainment. The feeling among artists and performers is reported to be characterized by the new hit-tune which is heard in every night club and on the air, "Berlin Kommt Wieder" (Berlin Will Make a Come-Back). The text of the song indicates its hortatory and inspirational tone:

Berlin will make a come-back
That is the song everyone sings
And that now once again
Echoes beautifully through Berlin.

Yes, my dear,
On the Alexanderplatz,
At the Stern, at the Zoo, on the Knie
Again one hears
That melody
And those who've heard it once
Can never again forget it.

Berlin will make a come-back
Who'd have thought that of us ?
Yes, it is making a come-back
Of course, it won't happen overnight !

But just like
After the dark night
The sun laughs again
So, Unter'n Linden the Linden will
bloom again,
Berlin remains Berlin after all !

They apparently count upon the initial shock provided by the occupation, and on the inherent German inability to disregard orders, to provide a semi-voluntary compliance with Soviet instructions during the initial danger period which such a policy is bound to produce. All instructions and licenses issued to operators of information media carry the heading of German authorities, not of the Russian Military Government.

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is advisory only, and is mainly concerned with recommending or disapproving personnel and projects. They seem to work very well with the Soviet authorities and enjoy a considerable amount of independence. The only difficulty seems to arise from the fact that these Germans are going all-out to purge the cultural entertainment life of BERLIN of performers tainted with Nazism. The Soviet authorities, on the other hand, put the development of such activities to the highest possible degree first, even at the expense of using temporarily well-known Nazis in non-policy-making positions.

1. Press: Comparison between the press situation in BERLIN and that in the British-American zones of occupation reveals three main differences:

(1) In the American zone of occupation the Aachener Nachrichten is, so far, the only licensed German newspaper. The Russians, on the other hand, already have four German newspapers in BERLIN alone, and will have six of them in the near future. The difference is due largely to the divergent emphases. The Soviets, giving top priority to production, will grant permission to publish to any anti-Fascist Party - American authorities will not license any publisher until convinced of his personal reliability.

(2) In the American zone, too, licenses are being issued strictly to individuals. The Russians seem to prefer issuing them to political parties. The Red Army officer in charge has made a statement to the effect that "No individual has applied as yet." The difference is partly due to the fact that in the British and American zones political parties are forbidden.

(3) The actual licensing in BERLIN is done by the German authorities of the Berlin Municipal Administration, the "Magistrat," not by the Russian M.G. The man in charge there is a Herr Otto WINZER, a Moscow-trained German Communist.

Four daily newspapers are currently published in BERLIN and two more are scheduled to appear in the very near future. It is interesting to note the sequence in which the various BERLIN papers started publication under the Soviet occupation. Those already in publication include :

(1) Taegliche Rundschau (Daily Review) was the first to appear, starting publication a few days after the Soviet occupation of the city. It is officially considered as the only paper representing the views of the Red Army.

(2) Berliner Zeitung (Berlin Gazette) started publication in late May, as the organ of the Soviet-appointed German Municipal Administration for BERLIN.

(3) Deutsche Volkszeitung (German People's Gazette) started publication in late June. It is the mouth-piece of the German Communist Party, and the most expensive of the four present newspapers.

(4) Das Volk (The People) represents Social Democratic Party views and started publication on 4 July.

These four newspapers are to be supplemented shortly by the following :

(5) Neue Zeit (New Times) will represent both Catholic and Protestant elements. Apparently these elements belong to the former Left Wings of both the Center and the Christian Socialist Parties.

(6) Freies Deutschland (Free Germany) will represent Liberal Democratic views. Apparently this means the elements of the Left Wing of

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pre-1914 National Liberal Party, which were represented after the first World War by the Democratic Party and since 1930 by the Staatspartei.

All papers are described as extremely poor in journalistic quality and woefully inadequate in circulation. The interest shown in them by the population is not very strong. Except for the Communist Party newspaper, they do not seem to favor material originating with the official Soviet TASS Agency over material emanating from Anglo-American agencies. All papers appear under a system of pre-publication military censorship, which is concerned mainly with excising any Nazified utterances or derogatory remarks about the Allies.

2. Publications: The situation of the "Deutscher Verlag", formerly the "Ullstein Verlag" and the largest publishing house in Germany, is not yet clear. It had completely escaped bomb damage but suffered seriously from artillery fire during the siege of BERLIN, and later from wholesale removal of machinery and equipment by the Russians. Its legal status seems to be rather confused at the present. The BERLIN "Magistrat" first changed its name back to Ullstein Verlag, and appointed one of the five Ullstein brothers, the pre-HITLER owners of the concern, as co-trustee. Later, Ullstein was suspended from the job and the name was provisionally changed back to "Deutscher Verlag." Eventually the facilities of this concern should become the mainstay of press and publishing activities in the U.S. BERLIN zone. Other facilities seem to be in existence, but have not yet been surveyed in detail.

3. Radio: Very little is known as yet about the radio situation in BERLIN. The studios and the station are both located in the British zone, but from the last report they were still being run by the Russians. During negotiations with ICD representatives, Colonel YELESAROV of the competent Red Army HQ suggested informally that an inter-Allied set-up similar to the arrangement in TEHRAN be established. Under such an arrangement BERLIN radio would be run jointly by all the occupying powers. Pending the formal taking over of the British and U.S. zones, PA systems had not yet been used by the BERLIN District Information Control Team.

4. Theaters: An unexpectedly large proportion of the BERLIN theaters was found physically more or less intact, and a considerable number of theatrical personnel of all kinds available. They all seem to be eager to work, and do so with great enthusiasm, despite certain minor hardships.

At the time of the arrival of the BERLIN team a number of theaters were playing, two of them in the U.S. zone. Among other plays, a production of SHAKESPEARE's "Midsummer Night's Dream" is on the stage for the benefit of the British personnel.

5. Movies: The number of movie houses in operation is constantly increasing by leaps and bounds. When last reported 160 houses were open, and the Soviet authorities expected the total to reach 200 shortly. They were mainly playing Russian war films and historical films, but also some American pictures. The Russian authorities seem to want more of the latter for showings throughout the city. German films, of which more were found by the Russians than they had expected, are being carefully screened, and some of them have already been passed for distribution. Several German film laboratories seem to be in operating condition, and representatives of the TOBIS concern have already approached U.S. Information Control offices with an offer to synchronize American films in German.

6. Bookstores and Lending Libraries: Copies of a series of instructions issued to bookstore and lending library owners and operators have been received. They confirm the impression gained in other fields, namely, that the Russians' main concern is to keep all such services going, or to restore them as soon as possible. The purge, concerning both material and personnel, is to come gradually and later.

7. BERLIN After Dark: A great number of cabarets and night clubs are open all over BERLIN, and they are enjoying a great success with both the civilian population and the occupying troops. Their programs blend the German and Russian languages, and MC's are now trying to include enough English to make the programs understandable to the newest customers. The "Kabaret der Komiker" in the West End district is much favored; the hit song of its first program was "Berlin Comes Back" (see page 1). Qualified Information Control officers, who visited it, report the performances very uneven, but with some remarkable high spots. The "Kabaret der Komiker" has been closed down recently in order to make room for a NAAFI club.

8. Morale Effects: This rosy picture of life in BERLIN helps to clarify the situation in the specific field of information media and the Germans who engage in activities within this field. It has not been possible, in the short period since our entry, to determine the impress of this activity upon the morale of the general population. Nor has it been possible to examine the overall conditions of life in BERLIN to determine what progress has been made in such essential fields as housing, feeding, employment. Many Germans, indeed, have told ICD interrogators that they would rather have theater than food - but these are usually the Germans who have already dined.

II. RUMORS : A CURRENT SAMPLING

The cross-currents of rumor and counter-rumor which were encountered immediately upon occupation of Germany have continued unabated, and in some areas have reached an even wider flow. It is clear that the supply of authoritative information is not yet adequate to counter all the anxieties and agencies which generate and spread rumors. Of the rumors reported as current many indicate concern about future internal difficulties, and particularly about the distribution of food. Others are anti-Allied and anti-Military Government to the degree that they bespeak Nazi-inspired origins. There was a period in which pro-Russian rumors were rife, and even now both pro-American and pro-Russian rumors are encountered, but the flow is quite reduced. Frequently rumors are circulated which seem to have no political import but are mere fantastic exaggeration. A sampling of the rumors currently reported by ICD investigators reflect some main concerns and expectations among Germans.

1. Imminent Conflict between Anglo-Americans and Russians: Rumors on this subject have been heard since occupation in all areas under American and British control. Even before the junction at TORGAU, stories were circulating that armed clashes had actually occurred. More recently, this basic rumor has been buttressed by "reports" of difficulties over the determination of boundaries for the respective zones. Every incident, true or false, was adduced as "evidence." The recent shifting of occupation areas brought forth new stories, and further "proof" was drawn from stories that American and British armor was moving up to the line of demarcation (as could be "seen" from the eastward movement of tanks and vehicles through German cities.) This rumor was first reported from BREMEN, KASSEL and ERFURT during the month of June, when re-deployment of British and American units reached a peak. The imminence of conflict was reinforced further by frequent stories about the repair of air raid shelters, especially in HAMBURG, HANNOVER and BRAUNSCHWEIG. In KASSEL this rumor reached an extreme form, townsfolk spreading the story that the Allied public address system was announcing specific black-out regulations. And a further, unconfirmed, report tells of rumors circulating in North Central Germany that bombs had already fallen on HELMSTADT, not far from MAGDEBURG.

More recently there has been a crop of rumors dealing with the training of German pilots in Allied aircraft for use against Russia. Another version has it that German Ps/.. about to be demobilized are being

offered an opportunity to join the Anglo-American armies to fight Russia. These rumors have, at least in isolated cases, produced actual enquiries to Allied authorities by worried or inquisitive Germans.

It is interesting to note the specificity of some of these rumors. For example, one story circulating in the BRAUNSCHWEIG area tells of a British newspaper man who is said to have been present at the entry of the Russians into MAGDEBURG. When his jeep and camera disappeared the correspondent went to the Russian Commanding General to complain, but was curtly informed that nothing could be done. The Englishman was told that a British Liaison Officer was about to leave the area and was advised to join him if he did not wish to be detained by the Russian authorities.

It is clear that these rumors are an end-product of Nazi propaganda, which claimed the inevitability of a clash between the Allies. But they seem to be reinforced by a failure of the German people to receive or to believe more recent information about the present developments in Anglo-American-Russian relations. Some Germans, in an irrational fashion, continue to express this wish for a clash as a means of maintaining an illusory hope of salvaging at least a part of Germany.

2. Rumors about Food Distribution: When Radio Berlin first went on the air, German cities were blanketed with a series of rumors about lavish food distribution in the Russian zone. Since then these rumors have tapered off. Now, as one report points out, the converse is developing as refugees return from the Russian zone. Rumor has it in the BRAUNSCHWEIG area, for example, that BERLIN and DRESDEN are suffering from a famine. In the American and British zones, rumors about the wholesale destruction of food by M.G. authorities have been encountered. In a number of cases, German reporters of this rumor suggest that if the Allied Governments deem it necessary to destroy food, at least they should take measures to hide such activities from the German people. But not all rumors about food distribution in the British-American zone are deprivational. From KASSEL and ERFURT rumors concerning the imminent distribution of coffee, cocoa, etc. have been reported. Before the transfer of STUTTGART from French to American control, it was rumored that food would be distributed in large quantities as soon as the French had evacuated the city. The Americans were said to be withholding food because they did not want it to fall into the hands of the French.

Another type of rumor has been encountered which, whether its origin is Nazi or not, seems designed to prevent Allied authorities from getting information from cooperative Germans. In BREMEN, for example, it is said that a prominent anti-Nazi delivered a list of local Nazis to the British Military Government officer. The MGO is then said to have asked him if he were a German. Upon receiving an affirmative answer, the MGO is supposed to have torn the list to pieces, and thrown them on the floor. (Investigation proved this story to be pure invention.)

Short of attributing these rumors to an organized rumor-machine, it is obvious that individual Nazis are certain to help spread current spontaneous rumors of this type in their own community.

3. Increased Restrictions on German Civilians: Within the last two weeks rumors have been reported from such widely separated places as MUNICH, WIESBADEN, FRANKFURT and BREMEN to the effect that M.G. has decreed a ban on marriages for five years. The story is usually told with the specific detail that this regulation has recently been posted on M.G. bulletin boards. A possible basis for this rumor might be found in military regulations, which prohibit Americans and Britishers marrying German women. But alleged restrictions by M.G. are not confined to this topic. Others equally ridiculous and unfounded maintain that universities are to be closed indefinitely and opened only to foreigners; no more cigarettes or alcohol are to be distributed for the next 10 years; reproduction of children by Germans is forbidden.

III. RE-EDUCATION POTENTIAL : SOME GERMAN PROFESSORS

A group of 10 HEIDELBERG professors representing all shades of political and intellectual opinion except extreme National Socialist, when asked for their opinions on German re-education; reacted as expected by stressing the need for a thorough re-orientation of the German people. Yet, there were few among the group who admitted the need for a fundamental re-education and the great obstacles that such a program would encounter. It is strange to note the context in which they view re-education at work. Most of these professors believe that National Socialism represented a break with true German traditions. Only one professor, a sociologist, found antecedents for National Socialism in German history. For the others, judging by their failure to recommend reforms, the matter seems to be mainly one of a return to some form of past accomplishments.

It was not surprising therefore that most of these professors, when asked by ICD interrogators whether the German people were capable of re-education, answered "Yes" in an almost perfunctory fashion. For example, a professor of history who, although not a member of the Party was described as an opportunist, felt that re-education was possible :

"Despite the present lethargy of the nation and the insufficient food supply, whose improvement represents an elementary pre-requisite for really active and joyful reconstruction. The ability of many individuals to think and combine politically was awakened by the years of oppression and the recognition of the untruthful propaganda, but resulted only in secret, purely intellectual and passive developments, not in political action. Personnel are available everywhere, ready for loyal work, but hesitate to come forward because they fear appearing servile or being confused with those elements who have a bad conscience and force themselves upon the attention of the occupation authorities."

Another professor, whose specialty is natural science but whose main concern is opposition to Communism and Russian influence, went even further :

"The reaction to Nazi propaganda and the rule of lies is clear. There will be the greatest willingness to engage in real, completely factual work and education. This wish must be provided with substance, and immediately. Naturally I believe that the German people can be educated to political responsibility."

In his opinion, the basic problem of re-education hinges on long-term national and biological considerations. He feels that National Socialism came into being as a result of the 2,000,000 war dead of the first World War, who in 1933 would have been 35-45 years old. They would have carried the responsibilities of government and the National Socialist crisis would have been solved in another fashion. At the present moment the loss of 3-4,000,000 young men cannot be recovered for 25-30 years. Only at that time will the age groups under 50 have achieved normal proportions and stability.

One professor who was willing to admit the frightening ignorance among the young people, yet could not see any solution beyond his own limited university sphere. He suggested that university studies would have to be preceded by "as much as a year of elementary post-preparatory school." It remained for a professor of medical science to state the case in its most extreme form. He started with the simple assumption that :

"The German people can be thoroughly educated to political responsibility of the individual. Such consciousness of responsibility always existed among the older people and can be attained among the youth."

In his opinion, therefore, the re-education problem is quite simple. The medical faculty would resume its main task of educating good doctors in the old German tradition. He felt that the universities could resume without difficulty in the various fields, including even humanistic studies which have always drawn the most gifted students.

The minority point of view, which grasps the difficulties of re-education, was expressed by a professor of administrative and constitutional law, who feels that you can lead a man to college but you cannot make him think - that the pre-requisites of learning are the ability and desire to receive ideas. He does not find such a state of mind general among the Germans at the moment :

"To a great extent the German people has been thrown back to a purely vegetative existence, living in cellars or other limited facilities, and troubled in acquiring its daily bread, clothing and housing. These difficulties fill out the day. Most men have no time left for things of the spirit. As long as this condition lasts, there is no possibility of intellectual influence on the masses. The pre-requisite will be filled in the measure that the vegetative side of the life of the individual becomes normal. Therefore reconstruction must begin as quickly as possible, as the pre-requisite rather than the result of education."

He went even further, stating that education is only possible until about the thirtieth year of a man's life. After that age the fully-developed man can be influenced effectively only by appeals to his reason. Conscious attempts to influence such age groups, at the present time, he felt could easily have the opposite effect.

The professor of sociology who alone, among this group of ten, found antecedents for National Socialism in German history, indicated that re-education was conditioned by the degree of Nazification of surviving intellectuals. Among those under 30, he pointed out, strong anti-Nazi tendencies existed even before Allied occupation. He pointed in particular to the student revolt at MUNICH, as well as in other universities. These students, by contact with older elements, circulation of forbidden literature, and listening to foreign broadcasts, had been able to learn about values which had not existed in Germany since their childhood. The destruction of these tendencies by the Nazis, accomplished by wholesale arrest and by sending large numbers to the front, practically broke the back of the intellectuals of this generation. The professor looked to the return of Ps/W from this age group as possibly restoring their former influence. He confessed that those who were 20-30 years old when the Nazis came into power, and who are now 30-40, "proved a terrible disappointment." He held that the older intellectuals, that is those over 35 who had some ties with the Weimar Republic, had largely lost their significance as the result of elimination by the Nazis.

It is clear that, aside from whatever basic ideology they may hold, the belief of these professors in the potential for German re-education is in large measure motivated by the narrowest careerism. If their point of view of the educability of the German people is accepted, the importance of their profession is once more guaranteed. In a larger sense it is an indirect plea for softer conditions of peace.

The group as a whole was not prone to turn too critical an eye on the achievements of the universities during the last two or three decades, since to do so would reflect unfavorably on themselves. The decline in the role of the professor under the Nazis, admitted only indirectly, served only to strengthen their desire to regain their former position, regardless of larger considerations.

But merely to reaffirm the importance of education, and for them particularly higher education, is not enough. They would like to manage their own university without too much interference from the occupational authorities. They hint that the universities should have an important hand in their own de-Nazification and are extremely sensitive on the subject of denunciation. The use of Nazi Party membership as a criterion seems an error to those who wish to protect weaker colleagues, who found it easier to join up than to have their personal advancement blocked.

IV. EXTERMINATION AS SYSTEM : KAUFBEUREN

The Bavarian extermination plant recently discovered at KAUFBEUREN runs true to the pattern of cruelty and sadism found in the concentration camps. Although the expressed purpose - the extermination of mental defectives "for the improvement of the race" - was different, the product was the same. The institution operated under the name Kaufbeuren Heil- und Pflegeanstalt (Sanatorium and Lunatic Asylum.) It consists of a main complex of buildings at KAUFBEUREN and a baroque monastery at IRSEE, 3 miles away, with a capacity of approximately 3,000. As of 30 June the total number of patients was 2,046 (755 men, 1,175 women, 116 children.)

An uncooled morgue was found to contain emaciated and stinking bodies of men and women who had died 12 hours to 3 days before our investigators arrived. The total number of victims "treated" at the institution cannot be estimated as Dr FALTTLHAUSER, the director, and REICHERT, the chief clerk, burnt all papers prior to the arrival of American troops. Official reports which were found indicated that 60 children died in 1943, 75 in 1944, and 26 in 1945; and a mortality chart placed the percentual mortality for 1944 at 25.6. The living were hardly better off than the dead: among the children was a 10-year-old boy whose weight was less than 10 kilos and whose legs at the calf had a diameter of 2½ inches. Tuberculosis and other diseases are rampant, according to informant. Scabies, lice and other vermin were encountered throughout the buildings, linen was filthy and quarantine measures non-existent.

Some perpetrators or passive collaborators involved were in no way conscious of their crimes; they regard themselves as good and dutiful Germans, not Nazis. The chief nurse, for example, who confessed without coercion that she had murdered "approximately" 210 children, asked "Will anything happen to me?"

Dr Valentin FALTTLHAUSER, aged 69, Obermedizinalrat and a member of the Reich Arbeitsgemeinschaft Heil- und Pflegeanstalten Berlin (National Cooperative Association of Sanatoria and Insane Asylums,) was in charge and has been arrested. The second in charge, Dr Lothar GAERTNER, aged 43, who had been with the institution since 1930, committed suicide by hanging himself with the wire of a bed lamp. Three other doctors, including one-legged Dr OTTMAN, the food administrator, and Franziska VILL, secretary to Dr FALTTLHAUSER and mistress of Dr GAERTNER, have been arrested. The office clerk, Parteigenossin Tilde REICHERT is still at large.

Arrested also were two nurses: Sister WOERLE, head nurse of a childrens' ward, who confessed to having poisoned or killed by intramuscular injection "at least 211 minors" and drew a monthly bonus of 35 RM for her added task; and Sister Olga RITTLER, who confessed to having poisoned "at least 30 to 40 persons." When asked whether she was a Christian and believed in God, Sister RITTLER answered cockily: "I am a Lutheran and this is a personal matter which does not concern you."

Extermination was carried out in two major categories according to systematic plans : (1) by scientifically-directed starvation; (2) by administration of poisons. Patients selected for the starvation program were separated into two groups; those who received rapid starvation diets and those who received slow starvation diets. The fast diet normally killed patients in 3 months.

Poisoning was done either by the intra-muscular injection of scopolamine or by doses of luminal or veronal given in foods and liquids. Since these drugs are sedatives, even small overdoses may cause death after 2 to 5 days, during which time the patient generally contracts pneumonia or some other lung ailment. Conveniently, the latter can be listed as the cause of death. (Medical records for each patient included a Meldebogen, consisting of the detailed case history, and a Sippenbogen, or genealogical card, kept for "scientific purposes.")

Systematic, too, was the method of "covering" the murders. Several days before the death of the individual the institution would telegraph parents or relatives that the patient had taken a turn for the worse. Shortly afterward would come the notification that the patient had been buried in the local KAUFBEUREN cemetery or had been burned in the local crematorium adjacent to the morgue.

The patients were all Germans, selected by the Reichsausschuss zur Wissenschaftlichen Erfassung von erb- und ablagebedingten schweren Leiden, Berlin W 9 (National Committee for the Research of Hereditary and "Asocial" Serious Diseases) through its branch offices and the official district physician. Treatment of children was based on the Runderlasse(circulars) issued by the Reichsminister of the Interior on 18 August 1939 and 1 July 1940. Children were removed to the institution in spite of the protests of the parents.

It has not been determined - and the loss of vital records may make it impossible ever to determine - to what extent selection of patients was governed by political and personal "expediency" rather than the scientific diagnosis of incurable mental and physical deficiencies. It is interesting to note in this connection that the Reich Ministry of the Interior empowered Dr FAITLHAUSER to decide, in the place of absent relatives, whether cremation could take place. The Augsburg Regierungsbezirk empowered him to sign all necessary papers with regard to cremation of the dead. He attested in each case that "No circumstances are known which could lead to the belief that the diseased died from causes other than natural ones."

That the KAUFBEUREN institution was by no means the only lunatic asylum in which systematic extermination took place is indicated by what investigators call "solid" evidence. Several overlays showing other such institutions in GRAFENECK, WUERTTEMBERG and HARTHAUSEN (near LINZ) were found and handed over to the Military Government detachment in KAUFBEUREN. Patients were transferred in big dark-grey buses with covered windows, from one institution to another for extermination.

It is impossible to imagine that the people in the town of KAUFBEUREN itself were ignorant of what was happening in the asylum, which lies on the open road and is described as "the most outstanding landmark of the sleepy village." Franziska VILL, declaring that all employees were repeatedly given orders to keep silent under threat of being shipped off to Dachau, considered it highly unlikely that anyone in KAUFBEUREN was uninformed. A 12-year-old urchin, selected at random in the town, when asked what kind of a sanatorium the large complex of buildings on the hill might be, answered casually, "Das ist wo sie es unbringen" (That's where they kill them.)

V. THE MEDIA OF INFORMATION

1. Radio Facilities in D/P Centers: Reports on radio facilities available in D/P camps in various parts of Germany and Austria from early May to mid-June, show considerable improvement in the larger, well-established D/P centers. Where receiving sets and loudspeakers are available in sufficient numbers, great interest is shown in Allied broadcasts, particularly those emanating from Radio Luxembourg which contain news of specific personal concern to displaced persons. Dead spots still exist in transient and scattered D/P camps which lack electricity, receiving sets, or amplifiers. Coverage is best where public address systems and loudspeakers make broadcasts available to large congregations. Where such listening centers exist, irresponsible rumors crop up less frequently than in camps which rely for information on chance bits of broadcast news picked up by individual radio listeners. Wall newspapers whose copy is derived from news broadcasts at dictation speed by Radio Luxembourg and other Allied stations also contribute appreciably to lifting the fog of ignorance and fear among groups which have for so long been subjected to Nazi scare propaganda. Concrete information regarding the whereabouts of next-of-kin and conditions in their homeland continue to constitute the dominant interest of most displaced persons.

In the Russian camp at DARMSTADT (8,000 inhabitants) a loudspeaker outside the Commandant's office attracts large crowds, especially for the mid-day Radio Luxembourg broadcasts. LUXEMBOURG and MOSCOW transmissions also form the basis for the many wall-sheets in the camp. At the WETZLAR camp (17,000 inhabitants) all Allied radio programs are heard with interest; Luxembourg and London programs are highly praised by D/Ps of every nationality. In the ASCHAFFENBURG camp (11,500 inhabitants) one or two receivers are available for each section, usually in the Commandant's office. LONDON and LUXEMBOURG are easily heard, but Italians complain of poor reception from MILAN.

The HOHENFELS Center, with 13,000 displaced persons (of whom 90% are Polish), is served by a PWB Public Address system. News from BBC and Radio Luxembourg is monitored throughout the day and a regular program schedule has been arranged with the cooperation of the Polish D/Ps. A typical daily schedule is as follows :

<u>Morning</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Music by camp orchestra 2. Morning news 3. Poles in France and USA 4. Program for Polish women 5. Poetry and music 6. American music.
<u>Afternoon</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classical music 2. World news 3. Boy Scouts program 4. Camp news and announcements 5. Recitation of Polish literature 6. News highlights 7. Sports program
<u>Evening</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Music 2. World news 3. Camp comedians 4. Songs and music by camp orchestra.

In addition to the above, other items are offered from once to three times a week, such as the Children's Program, the Drama Club and the Sunday Religious Program. The PA system has met with great success at HOHENFELS and has contributed considerably to the improvement of morale. American military authorities and UNRRA are desirous to continue with this program as long as this D/P center exists.

In the large camp at COBURG, the Russian section has a complete monitoring and editorial staff which picks up LUXEMBOURG and MOSCOW broadcasts for its wall newspapers. Great satisfaction is expressed with the LUXEMBOURG dictation speed news transmissions. Loudspeakers attract large crowds, especially for the 12.15 Russian show from LUXEMBOURG.

Inadequate radio facilities existed as of 10 May in 5 camps in the NUREMBERG area which had 30,000 D/Ps. As of 27 May 3 camps at HALDERN, WESEL and HAMERKIRCHEN, with a total of 20,000 D/Ps, had no electric power. The need for speedy remedial action was conveyed to 21 A.G. HQ. and the situation may since have improved. In Dachau, as of 8 June, there still were insufficient radio receivers, but the authorities were hopeful of requisitioning additional sets to meet listening requirements. In scattered D/P settlements in Bavaria and Austria, receiving facilities were still considerably short of adequate, though individual D/Ps are often very well informed on news which is broadcast from Radio Luxembourg.

2. MUNICH Reactions to Berlin Radio: An attempt was made to ascertain the extent of listening to Radio Berlin among German civilians in MUNICH and the common reactions of listeners. The test cannot be considered as conclusive since only 20 men and women were interrogated at random in the streets of the city and only one of the interrogees admitted having listened to Radio Berlin. The others were unanimous in claiming that MUNICH civilians do not hear or discuss BERLIN broadcasts, for the following reasons :

- (a) No radios, or radios broken down, or looted by D/Ps.
- (b) A large percentage of available sets are "Volkssempfänger", incapable of picking up Radio Berlin.

In addition three of the interrogated civilians stated that, due to longstanding antagonism between Bavarian Prussia, they did not care what was going on in BERLIN or what BERLIN had to say.

3. Music: On Sunday, 8 July, a MUNICH Philharmonic Orchestra gave its first public concert in over a year. Works of MENDELSSOHN, MOZART and TCHAIKOVSKY were on the program. High-ranking U.S. Military Government officials, M.G. appointed German officials and over a thousand other persons were present. All tickets had been sold out within 24 hours after the concert was announced over the radio. On the same day the STUTTGART Symphonic Orchestra opened its first series of concerts under a U.S. Military Government license.

MENDELSSOHN was played in his native HAMBURG by the city's Philharmonic Orchestra which resumed its concerts last week under M.G. license. The same orchestra played on Sunday, 8 July, over Stuttgart Radio, marking the transfer of Military Government from French to U.S. authorities. This incidentally should alleviate fears which had been voiced among the STUTTGART population to the effect that this transfer would imply the suspension of all cultural activities.

4. Press:

German News Service: Established at BAD NAUHEIM recently, this service began operations with the publication of an English-language daily called "News of Germany", containing stories from the American zone of occupation and designed for early morning distribution to the occupying authorities. This news service will eventually be filed to German newspapers, to Radio Luxembourg and to civilian agencies.

Licensing Activity: Upon decision of the SHAEF licensing board, a license to publish a German-language newspaper has been approved (but not yet presented) for a group of applicants in FRANKFURT a/M. Several "dry runs" of their product, the Frankfurter Rundschau, will be inspected before final

presentation of the licensing papers. The group includes representatives of varying political points of view, and their joint product is intended, in view of the limited stocks of paper and equipment available, to take the place of separate newspapers each representing a single political outlook.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR SOVIET ALLIES

1. The Soviet "Educational Program" : Soviet propaganda to the Germans continues its judicious mixture of "hard" and "soft" themes. The educational program, which centers mainly about the theme of German moral responsibility for Nazi crimes, continues to be handed largely by the Free Germany Committee which habitually addresses itself to the German population by groups. The German listener, therefore, whether sailor or peasant or shopkeeper or worker or woman or youth is told why he is partly responsible for the atrocious crimes of the HITLER gang, which are described daily and at length. In important announcements this view is linked to some other large theme, as illustrated in the broadcast by Erich WEINERT, president of the Free Germany Committee, over Radio Moscow on 11 July. After stressing the responsibility of all Germans for Nazi crimes, WEINERT pointed out that reparations in kind in devastated Soviet areas must enjoy priority over reconstruction work in Germany. He spoke of the "hundreds of thousands of German men" who "have realized this great task and voluntarily compete with each other. These men know that by rebuilding the Russian towns destroyed by them, they create the foundation for the reconstruction of our people's honor." WEINERT concluded by reminding his German listeners that :

"Reparation is a national duty..... The more energetic and sincere every German makes his contribution to the work of reparation and the more sincerely our people makes an honest attempt at acquiring once again the world's respect, the earlier will the prisoners of war leave the alien country and the occupation forces withdraw from German soil."

2. Counterpoint : "Tidings of Gladness" : Although keeping the Germans under constant reminder (on some days nearly every hour on the hour) that they bear a great burden of moral and economic debt, the Soviet's attempt to forestall development of a mass depressive-complex among the population or the complete loss of their audience. It mixes the dour with the hopeful, often integrating them rather skilfully. The broadcast of Erich WEINERT, quoted above, is a fair sample of the technique. While the accursed Nazi past is discussed at length as the basis for the present reality of ruin and destruction, which is itself but the prelude to a difficult future, yet the final tone of the talk is encouraging. De-Nazification, reconstruction, even such a gloomy prospect as the payment of reparations in kind are presented to the Germans as opportunities - to rectify past mistakes and atone for past crimes; to participate in the rebuilding of Germany's future.

The Germans are encouraged, too, by broadcasts about the efforts of the occupying power to bring BERLIN back to normalcy. Measures to improve the distribution of food, to speed the relocation of displaced Berliners, to expedite postal communications - all these are noted by German listeners. Particular use is made of the Berliner's characteristic fondness for dramatic and musical art by maintaining a constant flow of news on developments in the field of entertainment; the reopening of cinemas, theaters, cabarets, concerts, cafes; and the broadcast of musical programs. All this is designed to give the listener a foretaste of better times to come, to illustrate the benevolent attitude of the conqueror, and to confirm his willingness to reward honest efforts of cooperation.

3. "Popular Front" : The Communist Party proclamation of 15 June (see ICIS # 1) was followed on 27 June by a manifesto of the Social Democratic Party advocating, among other measures :

- (1) State ownership of banks, insurance companies and mines
- (2) Distribution of large estates and the creation of large and medium farms
- (3) Abolition of unearned income from landed property.

A third party in the anti-Nazi bloc came to life in BERLIN on 29 June under the name of "Christlich-Demokratische Union Deutschlands" (The Christian-Democratic Union of Germany). The new Party's manifesto is signed by both Catholics and Lutherans, and it should therefore not be regarded as a successor to the Zentrum. Its aims and program were not broadcast, but a newspaper published by this Party is scheduled to appear soon (see Section I above).

During the past two weeks Radio Berlin has broadcast a number of proclamations and announcements of the Communist and the Social Democratic parties, which reveal growing political activity by the former, directed toward the formation of a broad "Popular Front" under Communist Party leadership. Certain passages in the policy proclamation of the Communist Party, together with the statement of Walter ULBRICHT, a member of the Party's Central Committee, indicate that the Communists are not content with becoming merely a party of the working-class but seek the leadership of an "anti-Fascist bloc" drawn from all classes. To begin with, the proclamation rejects outspokenly the possibility of applying the Soviet system in Germany - on the contrary, it advocates "a completely unhampered development of free trade and private enterprise and initiative on the basis of private property." The main reference to socialization in their ten-point manifesto is to be found under point 8, which demands the "handing over" of all industrial enterprises serving vital public needs such as transport, water, gas and electricity works ...". Even the demand of the liquidation of large estates is followed by a reassuring statement to the "Grossbauern" that such action would not necessarily affect their properties. In this respect the Communist manifesto seems rather less radical, in the traditional Marxist sense, than the Social Democratic one.

Walter ULBRICHT in his speech, referring to the proposal of the Social Democrats for a fusion of the two parties into one party of the working nation, stressed that the pre-requisites for the fusion are being created by present cooperation between the two organizations. Recommending good relations between Communists and Social Democrats throughout the Reich, ULBRICHT nonetheless expressed the opinion that the proposed party was not a question for the working-class alone to decide "but was also a question of the attitude of the representatives of the progressive intelligentsia and of the anti-Fascist peasants." Elaborating further, ULBRICHT concludes that "HITLER's total war has caused profound social changes. Men from bourgeois circles have become brothers-in-arms of the old anti-Fascists." Thus, on the assumption that a social levelling has already come about in Germany, the German Communist Party seems to be making a bid to become a party to all classes. Says ULBRICHT : "All sincere fighters of Fascism will belong to our Party, the Party of the working people."

William S. Paley, Col. A.U.S.
 for ROBERT A. McCLURE,
 Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
 Director of Information Control Service.

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