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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

Berlin

[Redacted]

COUNTRY EAST GERMANY/USSR

TDCS DB-3/659,042

DATE OF INFO. 14 JANUARY 1964

DISTR. 16 JANUARY 1964

SUBJECT

PRIVATE EAST GERMAN VERSION OF THE MAIN THEMES
OF THE KHRUSHCHEV-ULBRICHT TALKS

PLACE & DATE ACQ. GERMANY, BERLIN /15 JANUARY 1964/

REF IN

SOURCE

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[Redacted]

APPRAISAL: IT IS PROBABLY TRUE THAT EAST GERMAN OFFICIALS SPOKE AS DESCRIBED, BUT WE CANNOT JUDGE THE ACCURACY OF THEIR STATEMENTS.

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1. ACCORDING TO [Redacted]

KHRUSHCHEV IS DETERMINED TO MAKE NEW 'GESTURES' ON THE GERMAN QUESTION. HE REPORTEDLY TOLD THIS TO EAST GERMAN BOSS WALTER ULBRICHT, WHO VISITED MOSCOW LAST WEEK, AND INSISTED THAT IN NO CASE SHOULD NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE WEST BERLIN SENAT BE STOPPED EVEN THOUGH ULBRICHT MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT SOME REVERSES /EINIGES SCHLUCKEN/.

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2. THE RUSSIANS UNDERSTAND THAT THE WEST REGARDS THE GERMAN QUESTION AS DECISIVE, [Redacted] AND FIRMLY INTEND TO DO SOMETHING THEMSELVES. NATURALLY, THEY ARE NOT READY FOR LARGE CONCESSIONS. NEVERTHELESS, A 'POLICY OF MINIMAL GESTURES' WILL

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3.

[REDACTED] THE PASSIERSCHEIN QUESTION AND 'THE ENTIRE BERLIN STORY' WERE IN THE FOREGROUND OF THE KHRUSHCHEV-ULBRICHT CONVERSATIONS. ULBRICHT, SINCE HIS RETURN, IS ACCUSING SKEPTICS IN THE EAST GERMAN PARTY /I.E., THOSE WHO SIDED WITH HIM IN ARGUMENTS OVER THE PASSIERSCHEINE/ OF BEING DOGMATIC. HE MAINTAINS HE WAS FOR IT ALL ALONG.

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4.

[REDACTED] THE EAST GERMANS NOW WANT TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR THEIR TRAVEL TO THE WEST /I.E., THE ALLIED TRAVEL OFFICE, ETC./, PERHAPS EXCHANGING QUITE LIMITED EAST-WEST TRAVEL POSSIBILITIES.

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5.

THE [REDACTED] SOURCES INDICATED, FURTHERMORE, THAT KHRUSHCHEV HAD 'LOST HIS TOLERANCE' OF THE CHINESE, WHO ARE TRYING TO UNDERMINE THE REPUTATION OF THE 'EAST BLOC' COUNTRIES WITH THE AFRICA JOURNEY OF CHOU-EN-LAI.

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7. FIELD DISTRIBUTION. STATE, ARMY, AIR.

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