Approved For Release 2006/10/06 : CIA-RDP80-00810A002100220002-1
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Unrest over Food Packages	DATE DISTR.	7 August 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Disturbances are reported to have occurred on 2 August 1953 in the following localities: Rangsdorf, Falkensee, Velten, Potsdam and Babelsberg, Nauen, Luckenwalde, Jüterbog, Gotha, Sömmerda, Radebeul, Elsterwerda, Riesa, and Dessau. Sporadic shooting is reported from Chemnitz, Potsdam and Babelsberg, Bitterfeld, and Falkensee. The situation was quieter on 3 August, presumably as a result of the barring of the railroad satations. There was increased unrest in Leipzig and Magdeburg on 4 August. Tension was lessened on 5 August by the renewal of the sale of railroad tickets to Berlin from most areas except Saxony and Mecklenburg.

2. The Soviet garrison in Leipzig is continuing its normal functions, and is not assigned to the duty of quelling disturbances. The KVP has been observed in strength in Cottbus, Neustrelitz, Oranienburg, Bitterfeld, Leipzig, and Magdeburg.

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3. Workers at the Buna plant demanded permission to go to Berlin to pick up food packages; when this was refused, they staged a slow-down on the afternoon and night of 3 August. It is reported without confirmation that a similar incident took place at the Leuna works. The Buna plant was occupied by about 10 or 20 Soviet tanks beginning at 3:00 on 3 August.

4. There are no indications at present of an intention to seal the sector borders again in Berlin.

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