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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Germany

SUBJECT World Youth Festival in Berlin  
in August 1951

PLACE  
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF  
INFO. January to March 1951

[REDACTED]

SOURCE

1. The World Federation of Democratic Youth has placed the FDJ in charge of the Third World Youth Festivals. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED] February 1951, [REDACTED] the Third World Youth Festivals will be held in Berlin from 5 to 19 August 1951. A committee responsible for organizing the festivals will be located at the Haus der Jugend on Alexanderplatz in Berlin. (1)
3. The preparatory committee for the World Youth Festivals in Western Germany held a meeting in Essen on 11 February 1951, which was presided over by Juergen Bartum, of Hamburg, a student and participant in the Second World Peace Congress in Warsaw. Pastor Johannes Oberhof also a member of the preparatory committee, was the speaker of the day. The meeting was attended by about 4,000 youths from Western Germany. Delegations from the Soviet Zone of Germany and from East-Berlin also were present.
4. The FDJ plans to assemble one and one half to two million youths from about 80 countries for the festivals. [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED] March 1951, [REDACTED] stated that the World Youth Festival will be financed by the Soviet Zone Government.

[REDACTED]

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(3)

Comments.

- (1) The Kurier, a newspaper in West-Berlin, reported on 22 March 1951 that a national committee was set up in the Haus der Jugend in Berlin for the purpose of making preparations for the Communist youth festivals. Professor K. Koloc, dean of the Institute of Technology in Dresden is to serve as chairman. Other members of the committee were said to include Pastor Oberhof, of Bremen, former Air Force General Karl Henschel, of Muenster, and Wilhelm Jurczek, a former Hitler Youth Oberbannfuehrer in Hamburg. The Informationsbuero West, a publication which appears in Berlin-Zehlendorf, stated that Helmut Hartwig, an SED member, is chief of the organization committee of the World Youth Festivals.  
[REDACTED]
- (2) The so-called Friedensmarsch, a peace demonstration parade which is scheduled to take place on 12 August 1951, will cover the entire area of Berlin. In the Deutsche Presseagentur it was mentioned that when the World Youth Festivals in Berlin were discussed at a conference of the executive committee of the Communist World Youth Movement in Prague, one Walter Brichacek, a delegate from Austria, stated that approximately 2,000 youth would attend from Austria, while the French delegate Louis Baillot stated that the French delegation would number 4,000 youth and 1,000 students; at the same time the Polish delegate Stanislaw Nowocien announced that 2,500 persons from Poland would participate. See referenced report for preparations by the Soviet Zone railroads for these youth festivals.
- (3) The Informationsbuero West stated that the Laender of the Soviet Zone of Germany will be required to furnish about 10,000,000 east marks for the World Youth Festivals; these sums, however, will not need to be included in the budget. The same publication also stated that the Committee of the National Front in Land Thuringia was raising funds to finance the World Youth Festivals through organized house-to-house solicitations and that similar collections would be made in nationalized enterprises.

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[REDACTED]

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