7 November 1952

Many of the German papers of 7 November carried inside page articles on the ouster of Ernst Tillich from the S P D.

The general comment may be summarized as follows: The leader of the anti-communist Fighting Group against Inhumanity, Ernst Tillich was ousted from the S P D for alleged neglect of his statutory duties. Tillich replied that he was not aware of the neglect and that he had not been notified of the ouster.

The West Berlin Telegraf (S P D) states that "The group had originally been founded for the purpose of rendering material and cultural assistance to the Soviet Zone population, to inform the world of wrong-doings in the zone, and to help political and other refugees from the zone. In the last few years, however, the group had undertaken and sponsored other activities which had led to public criticism of its work."

Without being able to give them due protection the group had sent young people into the soviet zone to distribute anti-communist propaganda material and commit acts of espionage and sabotage for which they had often been arrested and given long prison terms.

Since Tillich is the leader of the group official criticism is directed at him and it is questionable whether he will keep his post. The founder and first chairman of the "Fighting Group Against Humanity" has retired, allegedly on account of ill health.

On November 8 <u>The Frankfurter Allgemeine</u> carries an article on Page 3, headlined:

Controversary on the "Kampfgruppe"

in which it says that the Ministry of All-German Affairs has stopped financial
contributions to the "Kampfgruppe" a year ago. When it became known that the
group was also financed by an American ~~film~~ *fund* negotiations took place between the
Minister of All-German Affairs and the American agency for the purpose of exerting
more control over the group. To this Tillich had objected.

The Soviet press exploited the controversary and stated triumphantly that
its "unmasking" through show trials had forced the official agencies to withdraw
support from the group.