



DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION
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ORIGIN: NO: A-518, March 25, 1958,
EUR
INFO SUBJECT: Reporting on Political Views of Economics Minister Erhard,
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TO: The American Embassy BONN

CIA
OSIA

In connection with the present visit to Washington of the Federal German Economics Minister, Dr. Ludwig Erhard, the Department has reviewed its biographic files on Dr. Erhard. Though a large amount of material on Dr. Erhard has been submitted by the Embassy, this has dealt almost exclusively with Dr. Erhard's personal background and his views on economic issues. In the light of the fact that Dr. Erhard is generally believed to have increasing prospects of some day becoming Chancellor of the Federal Republic, the Department would appreciate receiving, on a continuing basis, as broad and as intense a coverage as is possible of his views on current political issues and particularly of his convictions on major long-term questions affecting the future of Germany. What is desired is not formal biographic reporting, but direct reports by officers of the Embassy who have an opportunity to speak to Dr. Erhard at length and who are sufficiently acquainted with him to elicit serious answers to general questions on the international posture of Germany.

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from STEFEL, ^{new German} member of Steering Board for Trade (General),
was in U.S. with Erhard.

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