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Operating through Poland

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1. In early May 1954, source learned that the German locomotive brigades are no longer to operate between Frankfurt/Oder and Brest Litovsk. The trains involved will be taken over by Polish personnel in Frankfurt/Oder. Repair work on cabooses formerly used by personnel of locomotive brigades will be discontinued immediately at the Greifswald railroad repair shop. In this connection, about 100 workers of the installation had to be laid off.
2. On 12 May 1954, source learned at the RBD Berlin that the locomotive column stationed at the Frankfurt/Oder marshaling yard and the maintenance shop located there would be deactivated. Trains dispatched to Brest Litovsk would henceforth be taken over by Polish railroad personnel at border stations. The so-called "Blue Express" is the only train to be operated by German personnel through Poland.
3. Source learned that effective 15 June 1954, all locomotive columns would be deactivated and placed at the disposal of the RBDs involved. According to source, cabooses will be sent to the railroad repair shop at Deitzsch.

[] Comment. The present report concerns the German locomotive columns previously operating through Poland which will be deactivated on 15 June or 1 July 1954. It is believed that this measure has been taken mainly because of a considerable drop in the volume of freight traffic with the USSR and because of an acute shortage of locomotives in East Germany. Some time ago, Deputy Railroad Minister Kramer traveled to Moscow to discuss the situation.

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