

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY

Poland/East Germany

DATE DISTR.

9 September 1954

SUBJECT

Transit Traffic through Poland

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[Redacted]

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. At a conference recently held in Moscow it was agreed that all ~~transit~~ ~~trains~~ ~~from~~ ~~Germany~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~USSR~~ ~~via~~ ~~Poland~~ were no longer to be handled by German locomotive brigades. The previous practice was to be discontinued in recognition of the sovereign status of the GDR and with a view to transferring the control of transit shipments in Poland to the Polish railroad authorities. It was laid down in Moscow that, effective 1 July 1954, trains loaded with goods consigned to the USSR would operate only as far as Frankfurt/Oder where they would be taken over by Polish personnel who in turn were to take them to Brest Litovsk. It was also agreed that all grain shuttle trains would operate through Guben; two or three trains per day, in particular coal trains, would operate through Kuestrin/Kietz; while the bulk of goods dispatched to the East would be shipped through Frankfurt/Oder.
2. The agreement concluded in Moscow stipulated that for a transition period German locomotives may be used for the handling of transit trains through Poland. Source stated that German railroad authorities believe the Polish railroad administration would be unable to fulfill its treaty obligations because of a shortage of locomotives and rolling stock.

[Redacted] Comment. Unconfirmed information on the intended deactivation of the East German locomotive columns may be connected with the reported reorganization of rail transit traffic through Poland.

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