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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE RECONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

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SUBJECT Bernhard Bechler, ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Deutschland Komitee

This document is hereby regraded to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ in accordance with the letter of 18 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archives of the United States.
 Next Follow Date: 2013

DIST. 8 August 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

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STATE	WAR	NAVY	JUSTICE

1. Bernhard Bechler was a major in Infantry Regiment 102, Chemnitz. As an officer he was a fanatical Nazi, but after his capture at Stalingrad he became a convinced Communist. He returned to Germany as a Russian Army Major on the staff of Marshal Zhukov.
2. Bechler's wife was active in the Nazi party. During the war she denounced a Communist official, who wanted to get in touch with her, to the Gestapo. The Communist was subsequently hanged. When the Russians entered Germany, Frau Bechler was captured by the Russians and was sentenced to death. Bechler had her officially declared dead and has since re-married.
3. Bechler is now Minister of the Interior for Brandenburg, and also belongs to the Central Committee of the Brandenburg SED. He has declared his intention of shortly resigning his ministerial post in order to be able to devote all his time to SED party activities.

Document No. 007
NO CHANGE in Class.☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO TS S G

DDA Memo. 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1

Date: 7 Apr 78 By

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