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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (French Zone)/France

DATE: 25X1A6a

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Andre' Fribourg's Visit to the French Zone

DIST. 31 October 1947

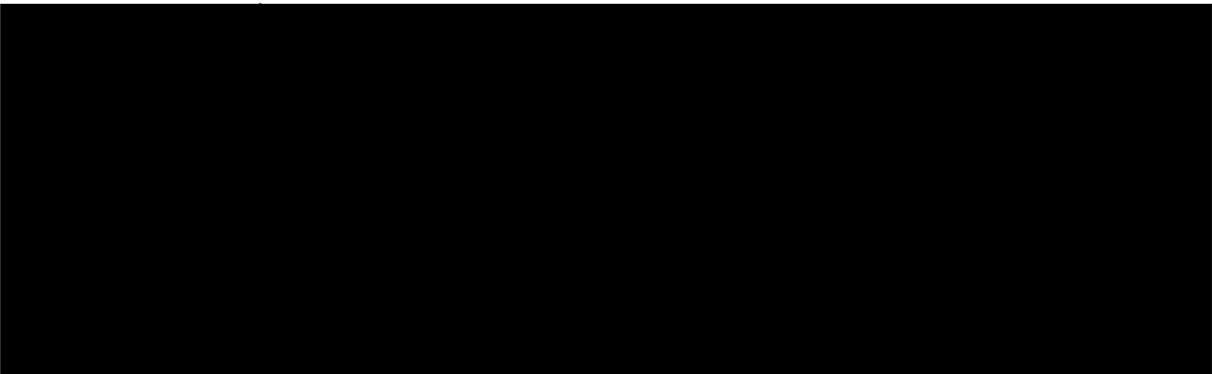
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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT



1. About 10 September 1947, Andre' Fribourg, a French journalist representing Figaro and several other papers, visited the French Zone to make contact with a number of German political personalities. By 19 September, he had spoken with the CDU leaders Eoden, a former Minister-President, and Haberer in Koblenz; the secretary of Dr. Schmitt, Bishop of Mainz; a director of IG Farben and a high-ranking Catholic priest (names not given) in Ludwigshafen; Leibbrand, the Social Democrat Minister of Economy; and Gunter Markscheffel, Editor-in-Chief of the Social Democratic paper Freiheit in Mainz.

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- 2. In his conversation with Markscheffel, [REDACTED] typical of all the conferences, Fribourg promulgated the following:
 - a. The purpose of his trip was to arrange with German political leaders a German-French modus-vivendi which would make unnecessary the merging of the French Zone into the Anglo-American Bi-Zone.
 - b. Influential French political circles admitted that in the past French policy in Germany had been mistaken, impractical, and incompetent, and felt that the first problem was to remedy the situation immediately.
 - c. A tri-zonal merger is not the solution but is being forced by the Americans only because "they want to cut the throats of Germans as well as French." Only rapid decisions by courageous French and German politicians could still save the situation.
 - d. The practical solution, presented by Fribourg with the backing of French authoritative circles, is for France to rebuild French Zone economy completely by furnishing all raw materials

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