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SUBJECT Communist Propaganda from Yugoslavia  
Directed Towards Germany

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1. During the first three months of 1948, the Volkssolidarität, a German relief organization in the Russian Zone controlled by SED, distributed between four and five thousand food packages of two or three kilograms each. The packages are presented as donations from German prisoners of war in Yugoslavia to needy German children in the Russian Zone.
2. Each package contains a letter from the German prisoners. All letters are exactly the same except for the signature, which refers to the camp number. A translation of the letter follows:

Yugoslavia, December 1947

Dear Children:

From all parts of the Federated People's Republic of Yugoslavia, from sunny Macedonia, the black mountains of Montenegro, from Bosnia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, and from the blue Adriatic, the prisoners of war greet you, your brothers and fathers, and would like to say through this little package how affectionately they think of you.

Hitler's bloody war of conquest brought us to Yugoslavia, which suffered immeasurably in the years of occupation. frightful devastation was inflicted, and villages and cities and whole territories were destroyed; men, women, children, and elders, amounting to 1,500,000, were killed by German and Austrian soldiers.

Although we brought injury and suffering, misery and misfortune to these small people, the Yugoslav government with that great friend of the people, Marshal Tito, at its head and the Yugoslav people nevertheless made it possible for us to send you these gifts.

As former Hitler soldiers who were sent out to destroy the small people of Yugoslavia, we can still tell you that we, as prisoners of war, have learned from the people of Yugoslavia how one lives and defends his home, how one restores and rebuilds it. Today we are helping to rebuild what we destroyed. We do it gladly, for with our work in the rebuilding of Yugoslavia we are fighting for their confidence in a democratic Germany.

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We are grateful to the people of Yugoslavia both for good treatment and for the fact that we can send you these presents.

Just like the democratic people's republic of Yugoslavia, we want you too to build up a home of working people, so that our country may not bring a new war and its misery and misfortune to the world, and in common with peace-loving peoples we want to fight for true freedom, peace, and welfare to rule in the whole world.

The German Prisoners of War in Yugoslavia

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