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INTENTIONAL
 COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC Railroad Personnel to Be Transferred to Industrial Enterprises and Uranium Mines

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 7 October 1957

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1.

- a. The Soviet Zone railroad administration was ordered to transfer railroad personnel to uranium ore mines in Saxony for the duration of one year. After this year of work in the mines, the railroad personnel concerned must again be employed by the Soviet Zone railroads.
- b. Previous efforts taken by the railroad administration to release railroad personnel for uranium ore mining has not been successful. These measures will now be carried out ruthlessly. The railroad personnel transferred will be replaced by young workers and women. *

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2.

- a. A total of 256,000 persons including 32,000 women are employed in the eight railroad districts. The number of women is about 12 per cent of the total labor force which will be increased to 23 per cent during the Five-Year Plan. **
- b. A total of 36,000 workers and employees including about 7,000 women are employed in the 24 railroad repair shops. ***

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- c. [redacted] the Soviet Zone railroad administration, by order of the Ministry for Labor and the Ministry for Industry, has to transfer about 28,000 personnel to important industrial enterprises. The railroad workers transferred are to be replaced by workers trained in special courses, so-called "Berufshilfer", and later by women. *It can be foreseen that this measure will have a detrimental effect on the quality of the workers employed. Already now there is a shortage of welders, lathe operators, locksmiths and mechanics. In order to remedy this situation, the number of apprentices to be trained in railroad shops is to be increased by 150 per cent. At least 20 per cent of the apprentices are to be women.

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Comment.

the transfer of personnel to be made by the Soviet Zone railroad system.

This transfer has been under way for a long time but apparently did not have the desired success. It appears that stricter measures

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are now to be taken to enforce the decreed transfer of personnel. Since this measure affects skill personnel with much experience, it is believed to have a most detrimental effect both on railroad operations and maintenance work to be performed on locomotive and rolling stock. Attention is called to the fact [redacted] no skilled workers will have to be withdrawn from construction work on the Berlin Outer Freight Ring.

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** [redacted] Com ent. [redacted] a total of 201,274 personnel were employed in the eight railroad districts of the zone on 1 April 1951.

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*** [redacted] It was previously stated that a total of 14,719 personnel were employed in the 24 railroad repair shops of the zone on 1 April 1951.

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