

#2337

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR. 2 April 1953

SUBJECT

Disbandment of the Office of Information

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Described as fairly reliable (C). Appraisal of Content: 3.

1. The Act fuer Informationen (AFI) officially discontinued its activity on 15 January 1953 and continued working only with one section which consisted of the Committee for the Liberation of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.
2. Professor Gerhard Eisler recently made the third speech at a demonstration, and he allegedly requested the press to make almost no mention of his speech, stating to a reporter that he planned to engage in scientific work for a while. He was non-committal when he was asked whether he would follow the example of Albert Norden, former chief of the press section in the Act fuer Informationen, and go to Humboldt University as a professor.
3. A number of the personnel of the AFI were employed in the new press section of the office of the Minister President and at other ministries. Only twelve former AFI employees were employed by ADN. Most of them filled subordinate posts at the individual sections. Olivier (fmu), who had been employed in the press section and, source believed, was of exceptional efficiency, worked in the ADN department for Germany and had to coordinate the work of the ADN correspondents in East Germany.
4. Schauer (fmu) was recently employed in addition to Mrs. Deba Wieland who succeeded Georg Hansen as ADN director and started working for ADN in late December 1952.¹ Schauer was employed at the chief editing office. His missions were still unclear. ADN employees believed that he would replace Max Kahane, who was expected to be removed soon.² On 13 January, he presided over the Wednesday conference of the section leaders instead of Kahane.

1. Field Comment: No information is available on Schauer (fmu).2. Field Comment: Max Kahane alias Mackel is between 40 and 45 years old, is ADN deputy director, SED member and SSO liaison agent, and is described as a rather block-headed partisan of the Russians without initiative of his own.

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