

FE

S-E-C-R-E-T

TO: Chief of Base, Berlin EGGA 1645
 INFO: COS/G EE FE 32W-6-99/3
 FROM: Chief of Base, Hamburg 25 April 1960
 SUBJECT: Operational/LCHARVEST/CAHELM No Indexing
 Hermann SCHWANN - Contact with Communist Chinese
 Embassy in East Berlin

ACTION REQUIRED: None, for your information

REFERENCE: EGGA 61272, 14 December 1959

1. CAHELM does not know what was discussed at the 10 December 1959 meeting between the Chinese Ambassador in East Berlin and Hermann SCHWANN and Emil HOFFMANN. We do know, however, from letters SCHWANN and HOFFMANN have written to the Deutsche-China Gesellschaft (DCG) that they were interested in having the DCG sponsor a reception for Communist China at the Leipzig Spring Fair. Their proposal was turned down by the DCG Vorstand on grounds of expense and lack of time for preparation. The real reason appears to have been a fear that the DCG would be attacked in West Germany for appearing in a leading role at the Leipzig Fair. (The DCG did send representatives to the Fair but did not give a reception.)

2. In a letter to the DCG Vorstand, dated 6 February 1960, HOFFMANN stated that at a dinner given by the Chinese Ambassador (date unspecified) for him and SCHWANN, the Chinese Ambassador in East Berlin, WANG Kuo-Chuang, stated that Peking had made the East Berlin Embassy responsible for contacts with the DCG and that furthermore it seemed odd that any reservations of a political nature should be raised in view of the fact that Wolfe SCHENKE had given interviews to the East German radio, "Deutschlandsender." (SCHENKE did in fact give one or two interviews, which were broadcast over the Deutschlandsender about December 1959; CAHELM was not aware of the content of the broadcasts.)

3. In a letter to the DCG Vorstand dated 24 February 1960, SCHWANN offered his resignation as Deputy Chairman of the DCG. Among the reasons given was the failure of the DCG Vorstand to accept SCHWANN's proposal for a reception at the Leipzig Fair; SCHWANN referred to his having discussed the proposal with the Chinese Ambassador before submitting it to the DCG. We are enclosing a copy of SCHWANN's letter for your information.

ATTACHMENT: Letter
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