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04 JUL 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

SUBJECT : Soviet Efforts to Determine Western Planning on the
Berlin Situation

1. Enclosed is a report [Redacted]

[Redacted] outlining an order received by Soviet
embassies instructing them to determine the degree of participation of
each NATO country in the decision regarding Berlin and to intensify
collection of information on the Berlin crisis.

2. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANS:

(Sign) Richard Helms

RICHARD HELMS

Enclosure

[Redacted]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

1/16/2006

HR 70-14

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

cc: Special Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
(Special Operations)

Director for Intelligence
The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Headquarters, U. S. Air Force

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence
Department of the Army

Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy

Director, National Security Agency

National Indications Center

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Assistant Director for National Estimates

Assistant Director for Current Intelligence

[Redacted]

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COUNTRY : USSR

SUBJECT : Soviet Efforts to Determine Western Planning on the Berlin Situation

DATE OF INFO: Mid-July 1961

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT : 2

SOURCE: [Redacted]

1. Soviet embassies in all "capitalist" countries (not only NATO countries) have received an order from the Soviet Government and the GRU¹ instructing them to determine the degree of participation of each NATO country in the decision regarding Berlin and to intensify collection of information on the German problem. The GRU has increased the allocation of radio transmission schedules so that if there were only two transmissions previously each day, the schedule would be increased to six in order to facilitate immediate transmission of all information on the Berlin question.

2. The order from Moscow is an instruction as follows:

You are instructed by using all strategic intelligence means, confidential agents, and friends to

a. Determine if differences exist among NATO member countries regarding the Berlin question, i.e., countries that recommend a firm stand and those that favor concessions or compromise, those which agree to send reinforcements of troops and weapons and those that oppose such measures.

* Soviet Military Intelligence

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b. Determine if any secret conferences of military and/or political leaders are taking place in connection with the Berlin question, if these conferences discuss some form of concerted action, and which branch of the armed forces would have the greater part to play in such action.

c. The GRU Resident in each NATO country is charged with determining the role of that country in solving the Berlin question, in both the political and military fields.

d. Determine whether the leaders of NATO countries want to negotiate on the Berlin question, and if so what proposals they are preparing to bring into such negotiations, i.e., are preparations being made for the eventuality of such negotiations taking place?

e. Determine if NATO countries would agree to make concessions, allowing the Soviets to sign a treaty and let the DDR control communications with Berlin, i.e., would NATO countries agree to have the control posts manned by DDR troops with a Soviet control official, so that the Western powers would not have to recognize or have anything to do with the DDR representative?

f. Report related military aspects in various NATO countries, what troops are now being moved into Germany from a country, what types, and which troops are being shifted around within NATO countries. Soviet officials and agents will initiate intensive travel programs to collect this information.

3. To facilitate execution of this order, special permission has been given to embassies in "capitalist" countries to work in active collaboration with local Communists, such as for the ambassador to meet secretly with Communist Party chiefs or other high officials. The CC/CPSU issued this order, and all possible means are to be used to collect pertinent information. The orders are that even the smallest, unconfirmed item is to be reported, however muddled it may appear to the collector, and the Central Committee will sort it out.

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4. It is considered that members of Western Communist Parties are in a position to obtain such information. Ambassadors will forward their information to the Central Committee to Khrushchev and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Embassies are beehives of activity on the Berlin question.

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