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22:1630

THIS IS BERLIN WRAPUP REQUESTED NYC 90 OF 17 AUGUST AND
NYC 94 OF 18 AUGUST.

A. INFORMATION SOURCES:

(1) CENTRAL NEWS AND MONITORING ON EVE OF GDR CLOSING OFF EAST BERLIN, ISSUED 3500 WORDS ON BERLIN. NEXT DAY, SUNDAY, WORDAGE JUMPED TO 12,500 ORIGINAL MATERIAL PLUS 5,000 SUMMARIES. BY MID-WEEK WORLD PRESS COMMENT ISSUED ON OUR TELETYPE CIRCUIT BUILT UP TO 20,000 WORDS DAILY. IN PERIOD 12-18 AUGUST 138,500 WORDS ON BERLIN WERE PROCESSED (NORMAL NEWSROOM OUTPUT ON ALL SUBJECTS IS 100,000 DAILY).

(2) BERLIN BUREAU PUT ON EXTRA MAN FURNISHED EXCELLENT BACKGROUNDEERS AND SPECIAL STORIES, AND AT TIMES NEWS AHEAD OF WORLD PRESS. EXCLUSIVE RFE STORIES INCLUDED:

14 AUG THIRTEEN SWIM TELTOW, SPANDAU CANALS AND HAVEL RIVER;
SOVIET DEPENDENTS LINING UP RAILROAD STATION TO LEAVE GDR;
17 AUG RFE EYEWITNESS REPORT OF STUDENT ESCAPE.

(3) RFE MUNICH INFORMATION OFFICE (EX-SOUTH GERMAN BUREAU) DEVELOPED STORIES SKIMPED BY AGENCIES, TO WIT: 16 AUGUST BAVARIAN BORDER POLICE REPORT CANCELLATION TRAVEL PERMITS TO WEST GERMANY BY GDR; 17 AUGUST FASTER COMPLETEER COVERAGE STRAUSS PRESS CONFERENCE AND EVENING RALLY.

(4) BONN, LONDON, PARIS AND STOCKHOLM SENT SPECIALS SPECIALS AS WELL AS PRESS COMMENTS.

(5) SPECIAL EVENTS DID ONE OR MORE ACTUALITY A DAY, FOUR ON 18 AUG. THESE INCLUDED TAPES OF: BRANDT SUNDAY STATEMENT; ADENAUER MONDAY STATEMENT; TUESDAY'S APPEALS FOR CALM BY BRANDT, ADENAUER, VON BRENTANO; INTERVIEW WITH WEST BERLIN WORKER;
MORE

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FREEDOM SONGS AND FREEDOM BELL AT THURSDAY'S RALLY;
MUNICH RALLY SPEECHES; INTERVIEW WITH STUDENT MOMENT AFTER
BREATH TAKING DASH FOR FREEDOM FRIDAY; BOWLES ADDRESS PRESS CLUB;
BUNDESTAG SPEECHES OF FRIDAY.

B. BROADCASTING COVERAGE, AUG 12 - 18:

	B	C	H	P	R	TOTALS
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	18	30	22	22	21	113
ORIGINAL MINUTES	168	284	190	129	162	933
REPEATS	304	871	320	381	354	2250
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TOTAL COMMENTARY	472	1155	510	510	516	3163
NEWS	182	226	205	285	245	1143
MORE						

C. EXAMPLES OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

BULGARIA

COMMENTARY 12 AUGUST POINTED UP REGIME SILENCE ON REFUGEE FLOW: 14TH SURVEY OF REFUGEE OUTPOURING SINCE 1945: 16TH NEGOTIATIONS FOR BULGARIAN-GDR TRADE AGREEMENT BREAKDOWN OVER CLAUSE MAKING IT APPLICABLE TO WEST BERLIN. OUR PROGRAM EMPHASIZED THAT ROMANIAN-GDR AGREEMENT INCLUDED WEST BERLIN.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

SPOTLIGHT 13 AUGUST WENT ON SIX HOURS EARLIER AND NIGHT BLOCK DEVOTED ENTIRELY BERLIN INSTEAD OF USUAL WEEKS REVIEW. COMMENT HIT AT SUPPRESSION OF NEWS OF EXODUS. WORLD REACTION HEAVILY PLAYED.

HUNGARY

13 AUG COMMENTARY RELATED EVENTS SPECIFICALLY TO HUNGARY ASKING IF HUNGARIAN PEOPLE HAD AUTHORIZED KADAR TO SUPPORT WARSAW PACT'S DANGEROUS ADVENTURE SUPPORTING ULBRICHT. 14TH ISSUE OF SELF-DETERMINATION POINTED UP IN COMMENTARY QUOTING WESTERN STATEMENTS USUPPORTING SAME. 17TH DIRECT REPORT FROM MARIENFELDE.

POLAND

13TH UNPRECEDENTED IN HISTORY TO SEPARATE A CAPITAL FROM ITS COUNTRY BY A POLICE CORDON. 14TH PREPONDERANCE OF YOUTH AMONG REFUGEES MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR COMMUNISTS TO CLAIM THEY WERE NAZIS; THEY ARE CHOOSING FREEDOM. ON SUNDAY, NEWSCASTS WERE INCREASED FROM EVERY OTHER HOUR TO HOURLY AFTER 1100. COMMENTARIES WERE REWRITTEN TO FIT NEW SITUATION. FIRST SPECIAL COMMENTARY WENT ON AIR 12:05. RADIO WARSAW DID NOT BROADCAST THE NEWS UNTIL 1900. RFE BROADCAST IT AT 0600, MORE

A BEAT OF 13 HOURS.

NOTE: POLISH BROADCAST POLICY IS TO KEEP ALL BUT ONE DAILY COMMENTARY DOWN TO 5 MINUTES. SO ALTHOUGH THE ORIGINAL AIRTIME FIGURE IS LOWER THAN OTHERS, THE NUMBER OF POLISH PROGRAMS DEALING WITH BERLIN IS THE SAME AS HUNGARY, NAMELY 22.

ROMANIA

SPECIALS INCLUDED FIVE EDITORIALS, SIX PRESS REVIEW, FIVE ON THE SPOT INTERVIEWS. COORDINATED APPROACH USED COMMENTARIES TO BACK UP NEWS, PRESS REVIEWS TO SHOW BROAD PROTEST, ON THE SPOT AND REFUGEE INTERVIEWS TO GIVE ACTUALITY.

D. GENERAL COMMENTS:

THE PAST WEEK WAS VERY EXCEPTIONAL, IN THAT ABOUT HALF OF THE POLITICAL PROGRAMS WERE ON BERLIN, ON SUNDAY, SOME OF THE STAFF CAME TO WORK 0300, HALF HOUR AFTER NEWS BROKE, AND STAYED UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT. SPECIAL ENGINEERING ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO PUT SUNDAY ON FULL SCHEDULE. STAFF CAME TO WORK TUESDAY, A GERMAN HOLIDAY. AUDIENCE ANALYSIS ADDED A QUESTION TO ITS REGULAR REFUGEE-TRAVELER QUESTIONNAIRE ASKING

LN THE RESPONDENT KNEW OF THE REFUGEE FLOW FROM EAST BERLIN AND IF SO HOW.

SO FAR WE HAVE ONLY TWO REPORTS, FROM A POLISH AND A ROMANIAN VISITOR, WHO BOTH SAID THEY HAD HEARD THE NEWS ON WESTERN

E. REGIME SUPPRESSION AND DISTORTION:

1. NO REGIME HAS YET TOLD ITS PEOPLE OF ENORMOUS SCALE OF WESTWARD FLOW OF EAST GERMAN REFUGEES DURING SUMMER. TOTAL ABSENCE OF FIGURES IN DEALING WITH SUBJECT WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR EAST EUROPEANS TO UNDERSTAND EVENTS OF 13 AUGUST IF IT WERE NOT FOR WESTERN BROADCASTS.

REGIMES HAVE GIVEN MUCH PUBLICITY TO EAST GERMAN TRIALS OF SO-

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● CALLED "SLAVE-TRADERS" AND "HEAD-HUNTERS" AND ALLEGATIONS OF KIDNAPPING BY WESTERN "AGENTS" OF EAST BERLIN CHILDREN. REPEATED COMMENTARIES CONDEMNING THIS KIND OF ALLEGED ACTIVITY PRECEDED BORDER CLOSING.

EXAMPLE 1: EAST GERMAN RADIO SAID 8 AUGUST THAT THE HUMAN TRADE IN SHANGHAI WAS CLUMSY ENTERPRISE COMPARED WITH THE ORGANIZATION OF BONN HUMAN TRADERS, WHO WERE LOOKING FOR CHEAP MANPOWER AND FOR CHANCES OF PRIVATE AND POLITICAL BLACKMAIL AND ENJOYMENT.

EXAMPLE 2: JULY 20, RADIOS SOFIA AND BUCHAREST COMMENTED ON ALLEGED WEST GERMAN "RECRUITING ACTION" IN EAST GERMANY. COMMENTS BASED ON EAST GERMAN REPORTS ABOUT "CAPITATION FEES", "KIDNAPPING", "BLACKMAIL" AND "INTIMIDATION" AND CLAIMED BONN SPENT MILLIONS ON THIS ACTIVITY TO CREATE IMPRESSION THAT THE EAST GERMAN POPULATION WAS UNDER PRESSURE.

● EXAMPLE 3: RADIO PRAGUE COMMENTED AUGUST 13 THERE HAD BEEN SMUGGLING IN ORDER TO WEAKEN EAST GERMAN ECONOMY.
MORE

"SHAMEFUL CASES" WERE CITED OF EAST GERMAN CHILDREN BEING ABDUCTED WEST BERLIN TO FORCE PARENTS TO DESERT HOMES.

EXAMPLE 4: POLISH MEDIA WERE ENTIRELY SILENT ON QUESTION UNTIL AFTER BORDER WAS CLOSED. THEN THEY BEGAN REPEAT "SLAVE TRADE" CHARGES IN Milder FORM THAN OTHER REGIMES. IT WAS ADMITTED BY RADIO WARSAW THAT EAST GERMANY WAS "LOSING CADRES".

2. OVERALL IMPRESSION WHICH REGIMES TRIED TO GIVE THEIR PEOPLES AFTER 13 AUGUST WAS THAT THE MEASURES TAKEN WERE DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO STOP INFLOW OF SPIES, AGENTS AND SABOTEURS FROM WEST TO EAST. IN ADDITION TO DISTORTIONS ABOUT SLAVE-TRADING, KIDNAPPING AND SO ON, SOME REGIMES HAVE SOUGHT TO MAKE THEIR POPULATIONS BELIEVE THAT -- FAR FROM A FLOW OF REFUGEES FROM EAST TO WEST -- THE TIDE IS IN FACT FLOWING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.

EXAMPLE 5 : RADIO PRAGUE 10 AUGUST SAID 700,000 WEST GERMAN CITIZENS HAD GONE TO EAST GERMANY SINCE 1954 -- MOSTLY YOUTH FLEEING DRAFT. THIS IS UNQUESTIONABLY A GROSS EXAGGERATION; THE TRUE FIGURE SINCE 1954 IS MORE LIKE 180-200,000.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE POLES HAVE ABSTAINED FROM BLATANTLY PHONY PROPAGANDA ALONG THESE LINES.

3. WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN ENDLESS REFERENCES TO THE "MEASURES" TAKEN BY THE EAST GERMAN REGIME 13 AUGUST AND IT HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR THAT SECTOR BOUNDARY HAS BEEN CLOSED, NO REGIME HAS YET PROVIDED DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF NATURE OF PHYSICAL BARRIER ERECTED. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME INDIRECT REFERENCES TO BARBED WIRE, BUT NOT TO THE CONCRETE WALL.

EXAMPLE: RADIO BUDAPEST 18 AUGUST CARRIED EXTENSIVE REPORTS MORE

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OF ULBRICHT'S SPEECH WHICH OBSERVED THAT IF THERE WERE NO MILITARISTS IN WEST GERMANY THERE WOULD BE NO BARBED WIRE IN BERLIN.

MORE OFTEN, HOWEVER, ONLY GENERAL TERMS HAVE BEEN USED. THE HUNGARIAN PARTY DAILY NEPSZABADSAG 16 AUGUST SAID MERELY THAT "EFFECTIVE MEASURES" HAD BEEN TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN THE WESTERN FRONTIERS OF THE GDR "INCLUDING THE BORDER DIVIDING THE CITY". AND CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE TOLD THE EAST GERMANS HAD INTRODUCED PRECAUTIONS NORMALLY CONDUCTED AT BORDERS OF ANY INDEPENDENT STATE. INHABITANTS FAMILIAR WITH IRON CURTAIN AROUND THEIR OWN COUNTRY WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING WHAT THAT MEANT.

IF YOU AGREE WEEKLY BERLIN REPORTS HENCEFORTH WILL COVER PERIOD FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY AND WILL LEAVE MUNICH IN SATURDAY POUCH. HOW MANY COPIES DO YOU WANT? DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON TYPE AND EXTENT OF COVERAGE?

END MSG