

AH
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EAST GERMANY

ULBRICHT's Revenge.

SOURCE BERLIN: Investigation Committee of Free Jurists

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 19 October 1953

EVAL. COMMENT: This terror, which can hardly fail to incite the masses of East Germany to greater hatred, may well be another symptom of the insecurity of the ruling cliques in that satellite; particularly as they "rule" only at the whim of MOSCOW.

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Since 17 June 1953 the investigation Committee of Free Jurists has registered more than 300 sentences passed by Communist courts upon East Germans who participated in the 17 June uprising in East Germany. Besides five death sentences and five sentences calling for life imprisonment, the 300 less heavy sentences recorded total 1205 years.

67 per cent of these sentenced are workers and laborers, while 25 per cent are salaried employees and tradesmen. Another six per cent of the sentenced belong to the so-called intelligentsia.

While 11 per cent of the sentenced persons are less than 21 years old, five per cent are married or unmarried women.

The Investigation Committee pointed out that the recorded sentences certainly constitute by far the majority of sentences passed in connection with the June uprising. However, the figure does not include sentences, which were passed by irregular courts like Soviet Military tribunals, or which were -- contrary to SED procedure -- not published in the Communist Press.

End.