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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0339

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DEPT FOR EUR/CE, BONN FOR WALTER ANDRUSYSZYN/LYNN
GURIAN, DAN THAL/BBMO

USNATO FOR KORNBLUM

TOKYO FOR GLASS

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: WSB, BQG, GC, GE

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF BERLIN PRESS

THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS THE SUMMARY OF PRESS
REPORTS AND COMMENTARY PREPARED EACH DAY BY U.S.
MISSION BERLIN. IT INCLUDES REPORTS FROM NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN WEST BERLIN AND FROM THE MAJOR EAST GERMAN
NEWSPAPERS. MISSION BERLIN TRANSMITS THIS SUMMARY FOR
THE SPECIAL USE OF EMBASSY BONN AND WASHINGTON AGENCIES
WHO ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS IN BERLIN ON A
DAILY BASIS. IT IS NOT PART OF THE DAILY MEDIA REPORT
SERIES WHICH IS PRODUCED BY EMBASSY BONN FOR ALL OF
WEST GERMANY, INCLUDING WEST BERLIN.
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REVIEW

TOP NEWS TODAY: SED CHIEF IDEOLOGIST HAGER VISITS

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MOSCOW; MOSCOW DEMANDS SED COMPROMISE.

BERLIN HEADLINES

TGS: KARLSRUHE (CONSTITUTIONAL COURT) STOPS FOREIGN
RESIDENT SUFFRAGE

BMP: SED CHIEF IDEOLOGIST: DIALOGUE. YES -- BUT NOT
WITH ALL

VB: FOREIGN RESIDENT SUFFRAGE SHELVED FOR THE TIME
BEING

TAZ: TINY CRACKS AMONG THE SED HARDLINERS

BZ: YES, MY CHILD, THE LITTLE BLUE STAR IS OUR MIRACLE

B: HONECKER: WEDNESDAY WILL BE HIS LAST WORK DAY

WH: THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO THE POLICY OF DETENTE

ND: WE WORK FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ENTIRE POPULACE
WITH MANY IDEAS AND MUCH ENERGY

OTHER FRONT PAGE NEWS INCLUDES UNCERTAINTY ABOUT
POLISH BORDER GUARDS' APPROACH TO GDR REFUGEES (TGS),
EXTENDED SHOPPING HOURS IN THE FRG BEYOND THE NORMAL
18:30 DEADLINE (TGS), THE NOMINATION OF BONN PROFESSOR
WOLFGANG PAUL AS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER IN PHYSICAL
SCIENCE (MOST PAPERS), THE SWEDISH COURT DECISION
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REVOKING THE COURT SENTENCE ON CHRISTER PETTERSSON,
SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER OLOF PALME'S CONVICTED ASSASSIN
(TGS, ET AL.), WARSAW'S PLAN TO COPE WITH ITS ECONOMIC
CRISIS BY ADOPTING THE WEST'S MARKET SYSTEM (BMP), AND
UNEXPLAINABLE SKIN DISEASES IN THE VICINITY OF RAMSTEIN
AFB, THE SCENE OF LAST YEAR'S AIRSHOW DISASTER (TAZ).

MOMPER ON GDR: COMMENTING IN A SPEECH AT THE
ABGEORDNETENHAUS ON RECENT SIGNS OF CHANGE IN THE GDR
GOVERNMENT, GOVERNING MAYOR WALTER MOMPER SAID THE TIME
OF FEAR IN THE GDR IS OVER. THE GOVERNMENT IS BREAKING
UP OLD PATTERNS OF THOUGHT, BUT THIS IS NOT YET THE
EXPECTED BREAKTHROUGH TOWARD DEMOCRACY, HE SAID.
RECENT REJECTIONS OF WESTERN VISITORS AT BERLIN
CROSSING POINTS BY EAST BERLIN GUARDS CONSTITUTE A
GRAVE VIOLATION OF THE VISITORS AGREEMENT AND OF THE

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FOUR POWER AGREEMENT, HE STATED. BUT HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE SENAT WILL CONTINUE TALKS WITH THE GDR GOVERNMENT TO ACHIEVE GOOD NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS IN ALL AREAS (VB, TGS, BMP, TAZ, FAZ).

. GDR REINFORCES SECTOR BORDER INSTALLATIONS: EAST BERLIN BORDER GUARDS HAVE BEGUN RAMMING POLES INTO THE RIVER BANK AT ARM'S LENGTH DISTANCE FROM THE SPREE. NEXT TO THE REICHSTAG. THERE IS SPECULATION THAT THEY ARE BUILDING AN UNDERWATER FENCE TO PREVENT THEIR PEOPLE FROM SWIMMING TO THE WEST (TGS).

. NEUES FORUM WEST: AN ASSEMBLY OF ABOUT 70 PEOPLE IN WEST BERLIN FAILED YESTERDAY TO CREATE A CONSTITUTION FOR A NEUES FORUM WEST. TO ACT AS A

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SUPPORT ORGANIZATION OF THE EAST GERMAN NEUES FORUM
OPPOSITION MOVEMENT. THE GROUP WAS UNABLE TO REACH
AGREEMENT ON WHAT EXACTLY COULD BE DONE TO HELP (BMP,
TAZ).

HOUSING SHORTAGE: WITH THE HOUSING SHORTAGE IN THE
CITY GETTING ACUTE, THE SENAT IS NOW CONSIDERING PLANS
TO USE STILL-EXISTING WW II BOMB SHELTERS AND OTHER AIR
SHELTERS IN THE CITY FOR PROVISIONAL HOUSING PURPOSES.
SENAT SPOKESMAN WERNER KOLHOFF SAID THESE INSTALLATIONS
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CAN HOUSE UP TO 21,000 PEOPLE (BMP).

INQUIRY ON SCHMUECKER CASE: THE ABGEORDNETENHAUS
CREATED AN INQUIRY COMMITTEE YESTERDAY ON THE
INVOLVEMENT OF THE INTERNAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AND OF
THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN THE SCHMUECKER CASE.
ANDREAS GERL (SPD) WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN AND JUERGEN
ADLER (CDU) DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE (BMP).

COMPROMISE ON ELECTRICITY GRID: SUPPORTERS OF A
COMPROMISE ON THE PLANNED ELECTRICITY GRID HAVE GAINED
THE UPPER HAND IN THE AL CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES. THE
CONFERENCE AGREED TO CREATE A STUDY GROUP TO DISCUSS
WITH SPD REPRESENTATIVES WHAT OPTIONS FOR AN
ELECTRICITY GRID ARE IN CONSONANCE WITH THE CURRENT
EFFORTS TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENERGY
CONSERVATION (TGS, VB, BMP, TAZ).

FLIGHT NOISE RECORDS TO BE PUBLISHED: THE SENAT
ENVIRONMENT OFFICE (SENATSUMWELTVERWALTUNG) ANNOUNCED
YESTERDAY AT THE ABGEORDNETENHAUS COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL
AFFAIRS THAT RECORDS ON FLIGHT NOISE WILL BE MADE

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PUBLIC FROM NOW ON. CHAIRMAN REINHARD FUEHRER INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT THE ALLIES HAVE ALREADY AGREED TO THE PROJECT. SIXTY (60) PERCENT OF THE AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY USED BELONG TO THE NOISY CLASS 2, AND 40 PERCENT BELONG TO THE NOISE-REDUCED CLASS 3 OF THE MEASURING SCALE. BERLINER MORGENPOST SAYS (BMP).

. FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE: FIRST RESPONSES TO THE FEDERAL COURT DECISION AGAINST FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE SHOW SPD AND AL REPRESENTATIVES TO BE UNIMPRESSED. SPD CAUCUS LEADER DITMAR STAFFELT SAID THE DECISION WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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CLEARLY OF A FORMAL NATURE, AND THAT HE CAN SEE HIS PARTY SUPPORTING THE RESPECTIVE DRAFT IN THE CITY JUST THE SAME (TGS, BMP, TAZ).

. KUENAST ATTACKS LIMBACH: AL DELEGATE RENATE KUENAST ACCUSED SENATOR FOR JUSTICE JUTTA LIMBACH OF UNORGANIZED ACTIVISM, SPELLING OUT A 'CHRONIQUE SCANDALEUSE' OF THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (TAZ).

. NO LONGER A REPUBLIKANER CAUCUS IN SPANDAU: SINCE FORMER REPUBLIKANER CHIEF BERNHARD ANDRES' WIFE MONIKA HAS LEFT THE PARTY AS WELL, ONLY ONE MEMBER OF THE PARTY REMAINS IN SPANDAU'S DISTRICT ASSEMBLY, AND THEREFORE A CAUCUS CANNOT BE FORMED(VB).

NATIONAL NEWS:

. SED UNDER PRESSURE: GDR DEPUTY STATE STATE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN GOETTING, THE GDR'S ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, AND THE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION (KULTURBUND) OF THE GDR YESTERDAY CALLED FOR MORE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, MORE TOLERANT AUTHORITIES AND A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF THE CAUSES WHICH LED TO THE MASS EXODUS OF GDR RESIDENTS TO THE WEST (MOST PAPERS).

. EC PARLIAMENT DEMANDS REFORMS IN THE GDR: AN UNUSUALLY LARGE MAJORITY OF THE EC PARLIAMENT PLENUM ENDORSED AN EC RESOLUTION YESTERDAY RECOGNIZING HUNGARY'S ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXODUS, AND UNDERSCORING THE BURDENS FOR POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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CAUSED BY THE EXODUS. THE RESOLUTION, WHICH WAS
OPPOSED BY ONLY ONE PARLIAMENT MEMBER, DEMANDS THAT THE
EC SUMMIT MEETING OF HEADS OF STATE IN DECEMBER FOCUS
ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE GDR AND ON THE
REFORM MOVEMENTS IN THE ENTIRE EAST (TGS).

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(WEST PRESS: TGS-DER TAGESSPIEGEL; BMP-BERLINER
MORGENPOST; VB-VOLKSBLATT; DW-DIE WELT; B-BILDZEITUNG;
BZ-BERLINER ZEITUNG; WH-DIE WAHRHEIT; TAZ-DIE

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SZ-SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG; FR-FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU;
EAST PRESS: BRL-BERLINER ZEITUNG; NAT-NATIONAL
ZEITUNG; NZ- NEUE ZEIT; ND- NEUES DEUTSCHLAND).

COMMENTARIES

MOST PAPERS INCLUDE COMMENTARY ON THE FRG
CONSTITUTIONAL COURT DECISION OPPOSING. FOR THE TIME
BEING, NEW LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD GRANT FOREIGN
RESIDENTS THE RIGHT TO VOTE. OTHER EDITORIALS DISCUSS
GDR DEVELOPMENTS (TAZ, BERLINER MORGENPOST, DIE
WAHRHEIT), THE "CELLE HOLE" INTERNAL INTELLIGENCE
SERVICE SCANDAL OF 1978 IN LOWER SAXONY (DER
TAGESSPIEGEL), AND THE "COURAGEOUS" SWEDISH COURT
DECISION REVOKING A PREVIOUS COURT SENTENCE ON CHRISTER
PETTERSSON, WHO HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF ASSASSINATING
PRIME MINISTER OLOF PALME (VOLKSBLATT)

THE GDR

THE INDEPENDENT-CONSERVATIVE BERLINER MORGENPOST,
UNDER THE HEADLINE "THE SED STICKS TO ITS POWER,"
FEATURES AN EDITORIAL BY RUDOLF STIEGE WHO SAYS: "ONE
SHOULD REALLY NOT BELIEVE THAT THE OVERDUE REFORMS IN
THE GDR DEPEND ON WHETHER OR NOT GDR LEADER HONECKER IS
AT THE HELM...ONE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT HONECKER, IN
THE CIRCLE OF OLD ORTHODOX HARDLINERS SUCH AS HAGER,
AXEN AND MIELKE, APPEARS LIKE A LIBERAL. WESTERN GDR
EXPERTS KEPT ON WHISPERING AMONG THEMSELVES FOR A LONG
TIME THAT SOME DAY, EVERYBODY WILL LONG FOR THE GOOD
OLD TIMES UNDER HONECKER.

"IS ALL THIS SUPPOSED TO BE DIFFERENT NOW? TO BE
SURE, THE SED POLITBURO OBVIOUSLY DEMANDED, IN A RATHER
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RUDE TONE, THAT HONECKER SWIFTLY PREPARE A REPORT ON

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THE SITUATION, AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS CANCELLED A TRIP TO DENMARK, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN AT ALL THAT HONECKER WILL BE TOPPLED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME HARDLINERS IN EAST BERLIN HAVE PICKED HONECKER AS A SCAPEGOAT AND WANT TO SACRIFICE HIM TO SOOTHE THE SITUATION IN THE GDR. ONLY TO GET BACK TO THE CONTROLS AFTER THIS STRATEGIC MANEUVER.

"ONE THING IS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN: THE CURRENT SED IS UNABLE TO CARRY OUT REAL REFORMS - WITH OR WITHOUT HONECKER. THE SED DOES NOT WANT TO SHARE ITS POWER."
(MP)

FAR-LEFT TAZ, UNDER THE HEADLINE "APPEASEMENT WITHOUT REFORMS," INCLUDES A GUEST COMMENTARY BY LUTZ RATHENOW, EAST GERMAN WRITER FROM EAST BERLIN. WHO SAYS: "WHILE THE BORDERS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND POLAND ARE MADE INCREASINGLY LESS CROSSABLE. THE POLITBURO WANTS TO TALK WITH US ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF TRAVELING ABROAD. WE ARE SUPPOSED TO LEARN ABOUT OUR INABILITY TO TRAVEL. IF THEY UP THERE (THE POLITICAL LEADERS) REALLY WANTED A DIALOGUE. THEY WOULD AT LEAST TRY TO CORRECT THE MISTAKES MADE IN THE RECENT PAST: THEY WOULD, FOR INSTANCE, PERMIT THE SOVIET 'SPUTNIK' MAGAZINE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AGAIN. THEY WOULD RELEASE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND WOULD APOLOGIZE TO THOSE WHO WERE ARRESTED AND BEATEN UP FOR NO REASON ON OCTOBER 7 AND 9.

"IN COMPARISON WITH WHAT GDR CITIZENS SAY, THE

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WESTERN MEDIA COMMENTARIES ARE CAUTIOUS. THE PICTURES
OF THE EVENTS ARE MINCING THE MATTER, TAKING INTO
ACCOUNT WHAT PICTURES WOULD SHOW IF CAMERAS WERE
PERMITTED EVERYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY.

. "NO, THE WEST IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CRISIS IN
THE GDR. THE WEST POSSIBLY EVEN DAMPENS IT." (MP)

. FAR-LEFT TAZ ALSO INCLUDES A COMMENTARY BY KLAUS
HARTUNG WHO CRITICALLY REVIEWS THE RECENT SED POLITBURO
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STATEMENT. UNDER THE HEADLINE "THAWING," HE SAYS:
"AND YET, THE PAPER WILL HAVE AN IMPACT. THE GDR
PUBLIC IS SUFFICIENTLY EDUCATED TO WORK WITH A
FORMULA. MORE IMPORTANT IS THAT THE PAPER LEGITIMIZES
THE EXISTING BEGINNINGS OF DIALOGUES ON A MUNICIPAL
LEVEL. THAT THIS FREEDOM HAS BEEN CONFIRMED IS
PROBABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT: IT INDICATES A

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THAWING. THE OPPOSITION GROUP WILL UNDERSTAND FROM THE PAPER THAT CURRENTLY NOTHING COULD BE MORE WRONG AND USELESS THAN WORKING AGAINST THE MOBILIZATION OF THE MASSES. AN ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN MOVEMENT IS FORMING FOR THOSE WHOM IT IS NO LONGER ENOUGH THAT THE LEADERS, FOR FEAR OF LOSING THEIR POWER, NOW WANT TO SPEAK. THEY MUST ALSO NOW BE ABLE TO SPEAK." (MP)

FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE

THE INDEPENDENT-CONSERVATIVE BERLINER MORGENPOST UNDER THE HEADLINE "FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE," SAYS: "THE DISPUTE ON THE FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE HAS FOUND ITS PROVISIONAL END WITH THE KARLSRUHE FEDERAL COURT DECISION YESTERDAY: A PROVISIONAL ENACTMENT. TO UNDERSTAND THE ONGOING DISPUTE AS WELL AS THE COURT DECISION, READERS SHOULD KNOW THE FOLLOWING:

"1. THE DISPUTE OVER THE COMMUNAL SUFFRAGE FOR FOREIGNERS IS BASICALLY OF POLITICAL NATURE. DIFFERENT GROUPS ARE DEFENDING THEIR PARTICULAR INTERESTS. CDU REPRESENTATIVES, ABOVE ALL, BELIEVE THAT FOREIGN VOTERS WOULD BRING GREAT ADVANTAGES TO SPD AND AL. THIS IS REASON ENOUGH FOR THE CDU TO TAKE THE MATTER TO KARLSRUHE (FEDERAL COURT).

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"2. THE COURT DECISION OF YESTERDAY DID NOT SAY A SINGLE WORD ON WHETHER FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE ON THE COMMUNAL LEVEL IS LEGALLY POSSIBLE OR NOT. IT IS A STRICTLY FORMAL DECISION ON THE JUDICIAL PROCESS. THE KARLSRUHE JUDGES NEED SEVERAL MORE MONTHS TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER, THEY SAY, AND THERE IS SIMPLY NOT ENOUGH TIME TO SETTLE THE CASE BEFORE THE UPCOMING SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN ELECTIONS (WITH WHICH THE DECISION IS CONCERNED). THEREFORE, THESE ELECTIONS ARE TO BE RUN ACCORDING TO THE EXISTING REGULATIONS, WHICH DO NOT PROVIDE FOR FOREIGN CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.

"3. THE STILL-OUTSTANDING DECISION ON THE ISSUE WILL HAVE SOME BEARING ON BERLIN AS WELL. FOR THE SPD AND, ABOVE ALL, THE AL INTEND TO INTRODUCE FOREIGN CITIZEN SUFFRAGE ON THE BERLIN DISTRICT LEVEL AS WELL. THE AL HAS EVEN TAKEN THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE STEP TOWARD THAT GOAL.

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. "BUT BOTH PARTIES WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT THE KARLSRUHE JUDGES' DECISION WILL BE. IN A YEAR OR SO, WE ALL WILL KNOW MORE.

. "AND SINCE THE NEXT ELECTIONS IN BERLIN WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS FROM NOW. THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT TIME THEN FOR A TIMELY SUBMISSION OF A DRAFT ON THE MATTER, IF THE KARLSRUHE JUDGES SHOULD IN FACT PASS A DECISION IN FAVOR OF FOREIGN CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNAL ELECTIONS...." (HFH)
GILMORE

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