

# U.S. FORCES INSTIGATE TRAFFIC INCIDENTS

## 10 October Incident

East Berlin Domestic Service in German 2100 GMT 11 October 1963--L

(Text) Between 0900 to 1030 hours on 10 October U.S. Army military convoys from West Berlin and West Germany arrived in Marienborn. The U.S. occupation soldiers coming from West Germany refused to dismount from their vehicles to be counted by the Soviet Army guards, a practice which has been customary for years. Therefore, the U.S. troops were not permitted to continue on their way to West Berlin.

The military convoy coming from West Berlin allowed itself to be cleared in the customary manner at the Drewitz checkpoint, but refused to permit the corresponding control by the Soviet Army at the state frontier. The U.S. occupation soldiers tried to force their way through with threats, but this was prevented. At the same time, the frontier was closed for a time to civilian traffic at Helmsteadt from the Western side.

After further attempts to cause provocations, the American commandant of Helmsteadt appeared and ordered the two military convoys to dismount and allow themselves to be checked in the customary way by the Soviet forces. As a result of the attitude of the U.S. occupation soldiers, civilian vehicles bound for West Berlin experienced delays of up to 45 minutes and vehicles bound for West Germany delays of up to one hour. Afterward the situation returned to normal on the state frontier.

About 0400 this morning the U.S. military column from Marienborn arrived at the Drewitz checkpoint. The U.S. occupation soldiers again refused to dismount from their vehicles to be counted. As a result this convoy of the occupation soldiers remains there and is blocking the civilian traffic on this highway.