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A-277

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AIR POUCH

INFO: Department of State
US Mission BERLIN
Ambassy PARIS
PARIS also for USRO

Ambassy BONN

Issuance of FRG Passports to East Germans in Third Countries
Embassy's A-101 and A-118



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At a quadripartite meeting on August 4, the German representative gave a full answer to the three questions raised by the British Embassy as to the permissibility of FRG Missions abroad giving Federal passports to East Germans applying in third countries (Embassy's A-101).

The answer is that this procedure is permitted by a Foreign Office directive to its Posts. The directive is however restrictive, in that it limits the applicants to two categories: (a) persons who wish to emigrate from the GDR, and (b) persons who wish to travel for urgent personal reasons. No business or professional travel of any kind can be accommodated under terms of the directive (and for this reason, a special permission had to be issued to the FRG Embassy in Sweden, in order to authorize issuance of FRG passports to East German clergymen, as described in Embassy's A-118).

So far as these two categories are involved, the German missions are authorized to issue Federal passports immediately, without reference to Bonn. In all cases the GDR passports are taken up and retained at the German mission. They may however be handed back to the East Germans upon return of the FRG passports, if the holders wish to go back to the Soviet Zone.

For the Ambassador:

Robert D. Davis
First Secretary of Embassy

GROUP 4

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AMB, DCM, ECON,
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POL 23-10 Travel Control
XR SOC 12-1 GDR