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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEKLY REVIEW

SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

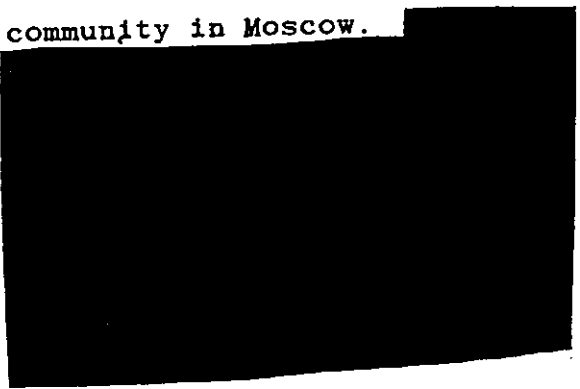
Moves on Berlin and Germany

Although Moscow has raised the specter of imminent action in Berlin and a number of foreboding reports hint at increased pressure on the Western position, it seems likely that Khrushchev has not yet decided on his next move. The Soviet Union is proceeding cautiously to avoid the high risks involved in any clear-cut challenge to the West on the Berlin issue. Soviet leaders may hope that renewed threats bearing on the consequences of a peace treaty will (be enough) to bring forth Western concessions which could result in a negotiated settlement.

In West Germany, Soviet representatives have inspired rumors pinpointing the months from August to October as a period for some kind of Soviet action on Berlin. Soviet diplomats in Bonn have hinted broadly to newspapermen that they should not take a vacation in August since they would miss "a historical event." They hint that all nations which fought Germany in World War II might be invited to attend a "peace conference," some time before the UN General Assembly convenes on 17 September, to conclude a peace treaty with the East Germans. Another rumor has it that the USSR and the bloc will sign a treaty with East Germany prior to the UNGA but suspend its application so that the entire question of Berlin and a German peace settlement can be laid before the UNGA. Yet another rumor speculates that harassment will be stepped up on access routes by stationing East Germans at control points.

Some of these rumors are also current in the diplomatic

community in Moscow.



Ambassador Dobrynin reflected the deliberate prudence which has characterized Soviet actions to date on Berlin in his 1 August conversation with Ambassador Harriman. Dobrynin "admitted" that there were indications Khrushchev intended to sign a separate peace treaty before long, but noted that he had set no date. The Soviet ambassador quickly added that independent action would not be necessary if an agreement could be reached. Dobrynin concluded that without an early agreement, grave difficulties might arise.

While Soviet leaders appear to be engaged in a review of the Rusk-Gromyko talks in Geneva and a reassessment of their own position, Soviet and East German personnel in East Germany are continuing work on military and security defenses in what may be preparations for a period of heightened pressures on Berlin. The East Germans are rushing the completion of construction along the sector and zonal borders of West Berlin, and their security personnel are apparently familiarizing themselves with Soviet procedures in controlling official Allied surface travel. In addition, the armed workers' militia, the Kampfgruppen, participated in a two-day exercise on 4-5 August, appearing in East Berlin and along



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the Wall for the first time since they were brought from outlying districts last summer to augment local security forces during the initial phase in the (construction) of the Wall.

Soviet and East German propaganda is concentrating its attack on the ties between West Berlin and West Germany, in an effort to demonstrate that the occupation forces in the city are protecting those responsible for recent provocations against East Germany. East Germany's Neues Deutschland bitterly criticized West German President Luebke's plans to visit West Berlin on 10 August to participate in anniversary ceremonies decrying the erection of the Berlin Wall. The East German Government officially protested Bonn's enforcement of its demands that East German railroad crews procure Allied Travel Office documentation to transit West Germany. And in a 31 July note delivered in Warsaw to the Western powers, the GDR threatened to meet any further attacks on the elevated railroad stations in West Berlin, which are owned and operated by East Germany, by reinforcing East German railroad police on both the suburban and long-distance railway systems in West Berlin, thus raising the possibility of future interference with the city's rail connections with West Germany.