

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

OUTGOING

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Date:

Mission has also confirmed press reports that Brigade Commander General Hay visited exclave December 8 accompanied by local district mayor. In addition, Mission reaffirmed, in response to queries, that US patrols continue to operate in Steinstuecken.

Comment: December 9 West Berlin press reported wall construction, Morgenpost (Springer-controlled indep) giving sensationalist coverage. Scare treatment of Steinstuecken developments is typical of certain elements of press here. Additional motivation is suggested by Morgenpost editorial attacking Senat for allegedly hushing up construction in order prevent disturbance to "little steps" policy. ✓

Our present assessment is that the work in progress is ~~misleading~~ continuation of earlier East German barricade construction in area and represents effort construct barricade in depth. We do not believe that access between Steinstuecken and ~~other~~ other parts of American Sector is likely to be affected.

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CALHOUN

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