



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## **RIAS, Berlin. [195-]**

United States. Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany.  
Information Services Division  
[Berlin]: [s.n.], [195-]

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/ZHMH46GPG7D7M86>

As a work of the United States government, this material is in the public domain.

For information on re-use see:

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

+ A

~~+45,276..~~

High Commission for Germany, Information

Service Division, MAY 24 1953



**RIAS (RADIO IN AMERICAN SECTOR) BROADCASTS DAILY OVER**

<b>MEDIUM WAVE, RIAS BERLIN</b>	<b>989 KILOCYCLES</b>
<b>RIAS HOF</b>	<b>683 KILOCYCLES</b>
<b>SHORT WAVE, RIAS BERLIN</b>	<b>6005 KILOCYCLES</b>
<b>WIRED RADIO (DRAHTFUNK)</b>	<b>245 KILOCYCLES</b>
<b>FREQUENCY MODULATION</b>	<b>93.7 MEGACYCLES</b>



RIAS is a German-language radio station operated by the US High Commissioner for Germany through Radio Branch, Information Division of the Office of Public Affairs.

RIAS BERLIN .....	300,000 Watts
RIAS HOF .....	40,000 Watts
RIAS SHORTWAVE .....	20,000 Watts
RIAS FM .....	3,000 Watts

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
BACKGROUND ON RIAS .....	1
What People Say about RIAS .....	5
The Western Press .....	5
The Soviet German Anti-RIAS Campaign .....	7
Anti-RIAS Press Campaign .....	8
RIAS Spews Poison .....	9
The Sin of Objectivism .....	11
Pure Abuse .....	12
Is Listening to RIAS Forbidden?.....	13
Despite the Risks, People Listen .....	13
The Soviet Zone Listeners .....	15
Comments from Occupation Groups .....	16
Response to Special Broadcasts, East and West.....	18
Soviet Zone Concentration Camps .....	18
The May Day Rally, 1950 .....	18
The FDJ Rally, May 1950 .....	19
The Police State .....	20
The Next Step to German Unity in Freedom .....	20
The Communist Collective Contracts .....	20
The World Youth Festival 1951 .....	21
Minor Campaign - (RIAS Youth-Broadcast) .....	22
FDP Convention .....	23
WHAT RIAS SAYS .....	24
Broadcasts to the Soviet Zone .....	24
Sample Commentary by Martin Koch .....	24
Sample Commentary by Mathias Walden .....	27
Warning Service .....	29
Pinzel and Schnorchel .....	30
Sample Commentary by Egon Bahr .....	34
Sample Commentary by Heinz Frentzel .....	36
Economics Commentary by Dr. Anton Schoepke .....	38
RIAS Coverage of Bonn Parliamentary Affairs .....	42
Liberation of Prisoners Attributed to RIAS Broadcast .....	43
Regularly Scheduled Programs of Primarily Political Content .....	44
Newscasts .....	44
RIAS Telephone Service .....	44
Voice of America .....	45
Special Broadcasts for Soviet Zone .....	45
Commentaries .....	46
"Zeit im Funk" .....	46
Berlin Press Review .....	47
University Programs - Youth Programs .....	47
The Parties Speak - Trade Union Broadcast .....	48
Victims of Soviet Concentration Camps .....	48
Günter Neumann and His Islanders .....	48
MSA Broadcasts - European Hour .....	48
And Today? .....	49
For the Teachers .....	49
Weekly Feature Commentary .....	49
The Week in Bonn .....	49
Report from the Berlin House of Representatives .....	49
Where the Shoe Pinches .....	49
Freedom Bell .....	50

## BACKGROUND ON RIAS

RIAS, the official radio station of the Office of the United States High Commissioner for Germany, was established to provide a mass medium of expression for the democratic West in Berlin and the Soviet Zone.

In the fall of 1945, when it became apparent at the outset of quadripartite relations that the Soviets would not relinquish unilateral control of Radio Berlin, the Americans decided to establish their own radio service. This service went into operation on February 7, 1946, utilizing the wired radio method of transmitting a daily schedule of seven hours of programs over the Berlin city telephone network. The programs presenting to the listeners in the American Sector objective newscasts and Western-type public service features such as equal air time for all authorized political parties, were in sharp contrast with the output of Soviet-controlled Radio Berlin.

The new American station, Drahtfunk im Amerikanischen Sektor (Wired Radio in the American Sector) was used by US radio officials to pressure the Soviet to relinquish control of Radio Berlin. Each stage of further development of the station was accompanied by US warnings to the Soviets that unless Radio Berlin was turned over to quadripartite control the US station would be further expanded. After several months of Drahtfunk operation it was found that the programs were not readily available to a large audience. It also appeared that the Soviets did not recognize the danger of competition for Radio Berlin. Accordingly, on September 5, 1946, the station changed its name to Rundfunk im Amerikanischen Sektor (Radio in the American Sector), using the call letters "RIAS" with transmissions on a 1000 watt broadcast transmitter.

The signal of the 1000 watt transmitter was weak compared to the 100,000 watt signal of Radio Berlin and also because of the nonavailability of a good frequency. The technical equipment consisted of an old US Army mobile transmitter that had originally been issued to a psychological warfare unit. A modest but vitally necessary power boost was an obvious necessity and a new 2,500 watt German transmitter was ordered. This new transmitter was put into operation on March 7, 1947, at which time the Americans sent notice to the Soviets that unless they relinquished unilateral control over Radio Berlin, it would be necessary

for the US to install a still more powerful transmitter.

On June 1, 1947, the US placed into operation a captured 20,000 watt transmitter that had been used in World War II by the German army as mobile equipment in Italy, and which had been completely overhauled before installation in Berlin.

RIAS, by this time, had developed into a strong station. The German staff had more than doubled, and studio and administrative facilities were inadequate. Accordingly, a new broadcast house was sought to consolidate RIAS, which at this stage of its development had spread to parts of three buildings near the Allied Control Authority compound in the center of Berlin. The present RIAS building on Kufsteinerstrasse, in the Schoeneberg district of Berlin, was the result of this action.

Critical shortages in building material and engineering equipment presented great difficulties in the reconstruction of the present studio building but these were eventually overcome, so that by the time the studio building was opened on July 6, 1948, RIAS was well on the way toward becoming the most popular radio station in Berlin and the surrounding Soviet Zone.

Between October, 1949, and March, 1950, numerous technical problems were encountered and various engineering adjustments were undertaken to reduce the interference of the RIAS signal with that of Radio Belgrade whose frequency RIAS shared. This period of technical storm and stress, while permitting full daytime use of a new 100,000 watt transmitter, witnessed on the other hand a substantial loss of nighttime coverage, owing to the required reduction of power during the hours of darkness. However, this awkward situation was partially offset by the fact that RIAS operates a second medium-wave transmitter from Hof in Northern Bavaria, from which vantage point the RIAS program is simultaneously beamed into the industrial and uranium mine areas of Thuringia and Saxony.

In March 1950, RIAS was allocated relatively clear frequencies for both its Berlin and Hof transmitters (Berlin on 989 kc. and Hof on 719 kc.), which permitted full time operation at maximum power. Technical facilities at both transmitters were also measurably improved, so that RIAS was able to cover not only the Soviet Zone but other parts

of Germany and central Europe as well. The Hof frequency, 719 kc., was, however, transferred to Radio Free Europe a year later, when Radio Free Europe began its medium-wave operation. The RIAS-Hof transmitter was then placed on the Belgrade frequency of 683 kc., operating from 0100 to sun - set to avoid interfering with the Belgrade service.

As a means of overcoming the limitations of daytime medium-wave broadcasting, RIAS installed a 20 kw. short-wave transmitter in Berlin and placed it in operation August 7, 1951.

The latest power increase of RIAS-Berlin took place on January 15, 1953, when the 100 kw. output was stepped up to 300 kw. This development had become necessary in view of the strengthening of Soviet Zone facilities and the interference on RIAS wave lengths beginning in the fall of 1952.

In addition to its two medium-wave transmitters, RIAS-Berlin on 989 kc. and RIAS-Hof on 683 kc., the station may also be heard in Berlin via wired radio service on 245 kc. and via FM on 93.7 megacycles.

As is explained later in the text, RIAS also initiated and now has in operation the only telephone news service in Germany.

In the course of the past seven years RIAS has become a social, cultural and political institution. RIAS today is as much a household word in the life of the city as the Kurfürstendamm or the "Berliner Bear." This thorough acceptance is not confined to the people of Berlin. The population of the Soviet Zone and Sector bestows the same recognition on RIAS. Many people take risks to report personally or by mail how the station is being heard or what the zone wishes to hear. Opinion surveys conducted by independent German agencies among Soviet Sector and Zone residents during visits in West Berlin result in RIAS's being named as the favorite station by from 80 to 95% of the people questioned.

RIAS's primary target is Berlin and the Soviet Zone of Germany with its 18 million population. For them RIAS constitutes the only major source which provides them with straight, unbiased and clean cut news. A much larger audience is reached through the night time range of the station throughout Europe. Listener mail comes regularly from Scandinavia, the Low Countries, France, Switzerland and Italy.



Indications of effectiveness in the Soviet Zone of Germany and in other Iron Curtain areas are found in reports from Anti-Communist organizations; from listener mail occasionally coming through Communist censors or carried to mail boxes in Western Berlin; from a steady stream of visitors to the station, from refugees; and from present jamming of RIAS coupled with the bitter denunciation of the station by the Communists.

It is estimated by those who have close contact with the Soviet Zone that within 24 hours of the time RIAS broadcasts an important item it has been either heard by or passed on to the great majority of the people of the Soviet Zone.

What people say about RIAS

The Western Press

Berlin

"Der Tag": "RIAS serves the truth. All who are familiar with the tense situation of Berlin will know at once what that means. RIAS's steadily increasing success in doing justice to its mission is proved by the many vicious libels and shouts of rage from the enemy camp.... RIAS registers every political shock with the precision of a seismograph."

"Telegraf-Illustrierte": "RIAS penetrates the Iron Curtain. The people of Central Germany - otherwise almost entirely delivered over to the Communist propaganda roller - are enthusiastic RIAS listeners. As in the Nazi period, listening to a station of the free world is very dangerous for them."

"Der Tagesspiegel": "Berlin's radio towers are actually lighthouses, beaming political warnings and directions so that people can find the right way even in heavy fog and against strong opposing winds. Let it be said here with all emphasis that RIAS fully recognizes its mission as a beacon."

"Der Sozialdemokrat": "RIAS has made itself the spokesman of the Soviet Zone population.... Every day many visitors give RIAS their thanks for the work of enlightenment which it accomplishes in their interest."

Hamburg

"Hamburger Echo": "These broadcasts" (to the Soviet Zone) "created complete chaos in the NKVD's spy service."

Düsseldorf

"Das Freie Wort": "In spite of all efforts at intimidation the people in the Zone ... listen to RIAS ... in the knowledge that the voice of truth is brought to them ...."

Zürich

"Neue Zuercher Zeitung": "RIAS is the main support of Western propaganda in the Russian-occupied area."

No.24 of the "Rundfunkspiegel," published by the German Industrial Institute, carried an article headed: "Radio as an Instrument for Forming Political Opinion." The article said, in part: "Several debates in the American Congress on the Voice of America showed that people are aware of the problem of political propaganda. But it is hoped- surely with justification - that there are points of approach promising an effect behind the Iron Curtain. In Germany RIAS offers the best example of effective political work. Its principal audience is in the Soviet Zone. It supports Soviet Zone residents in forming a free opinion. RIAS's work is made easier to some degree by the fact that its listeners are willing to think over what is offered them. That is, RIAS broadcasts are not, as was the case with Allied stations during the war, branded as enemy propaganda and thus listened to in a prejudiced frame of mind."

Stockholm

"Aftonbladet": "RIAS portrays Russian characteristics relentlessly."

"New York Herald Tribune": "RIAS has long been a thorn in the side of the East German authorities, and was specifically singled out by the Soviet commander-in-chief in East Germany, Gen. Vassily Chuikov, in a note to Mr. Donnelly and the other Western High Commissioners protesting 'e s p i o n a g e activities' against East Germany...."

"The New York Times": "But both the Russians and the German Communists understand that East Germany cannot be considered a reliable ally so long as RIAS reaches East German homes...."

"New York Herald Tribune": "One great trouble with our information programs has been a certain grandiosity, a dealing too much in a wide field, a reiteration of abstractions ill understood by the audience - if indeed such stuff has had an audience. Another way of handling information has been demonstrated for years by the Berlin Radio Station RIAS. RIAS, with an audience in East Germany that it can check on, has shown the relative ineffectiveness of sober lectures, no matter how high-minded, and of descriptions of the American way of life, no matter how correct. It has shown that an Iron Curtain audience will listen most closely to programs dealing in local news and comment, and talking in the 'terms of the listeners' daily lives, sometimes seriously, sometimes with humor...."

On the occasion of the 5th anniversary of RIAS, February 7, 1951, Mayor Reuter stated:

"... RIAS broadcasts have become an integral part of Berlin life, which is hardly conceivable without it (RIAS)...."

"Die Welt", 7 Feb 1951:

"... As the 'Voice of Freedom' for the island of Berlin and the Soviet Zone RIAS plays an extraordinary role in the fight against Eastern terror and tyranny."

"Berliner Anzeiger", 6 Feb 1951:

"The 'Radio in the American Sector' is called upon to perform an important task: it is the connecting link between the Germans on either side of the Iron Curtain."

"Depesche", 7 Feb 1951:

"If it is considered proper to measure the significance of a radio station by the amount of hatred extended by its opponents, then RIAS, which celebrates its fifth anniversary today, has achieved a rare degree of fame..."

Professor Reuter, Mayor of Berlin, at the opening of the new 20 kw short-wave transmitter on 8 Aug, 1951:

"From now on we have another opportunity to bring the truth to our oppressed countrymen in the Soviet controlled zone and to those peoples who have been robbed of their freedom on the other side of the Iron Curtain."

#### The Soviet German Anti-RIAS Campaigns

During the last seven years the Communist organs of the Soviet Zone and the Soviet Sector of Berlin have expended an incalculable amount of news space and air time in attacks upon RIAS. The station's staff have happily accepted the Communist slogan "RIAS is worse than cyanide" as a house motto. It sums up our opponent's estimate of our effectiveness, of which he is certainly the best judge.

The stories and comments from Communist sources reproduced here give a fair picture of Communist concern with RIAS broadcasts. What they do not reveal is that among RIAS's regular listeners are Communist functionaries on all levels. Reliable visitors from the Soviet Zone have reported the fact again and again. In some towns of the Zone, meetings of the Socialist Unity Party or other Communist organizations cannot be started as early in the evening as the leaders wish. Until 8.00 p.m., too many members are listening to the nightly program "Berlin Speaks to the Zone." Prior to the severance of Soviet Sector telephone connections, RIAS staff members tested these reports by telephoning, under false names, prominent leaders of the Soviet German regime and expressing concern over something just broadcast. The usual response was positive. For instance, on October 5, 1950, a member of the RIAS Political Department telephoned State Secretary Wunderlich at his East Berlin home. Announcing himself as vice-chairman of a Soviet Sector "peace committee," the staff member asked Wunderlich if he had heard RIAS's special broadcasts calling on East Berliners to take part in the ration-card balloting for all-Berlin elections. Wunderlich's reply was: "Yes, yes, we're all listening to the broadcasts. Tomorrow we will discuss what to do about them."

A political refugee recently wrote: "For three years I was a member of the Liberal Democratic Party and mayor of a small town in the Soviet Zone. At 1230 and 1930 (hours of two important RIAS newscasts) everyone sat by the radio receiver. Even SED meetings could not be scheduled before 2000 hours. At a meeting of the National Front our State Councillor declared, 'I know you all listen to RIAS. It complicates our work a great deal.'"

#### Anti - RIAS Press Campaign

"Volksstimme", Magdeburg, September 22, 1952:

The "Volksstimme" reports on the trials against agents and spies: "In public discussions the population has shown its contempt for RIAS criminals and agents and a resolution was adopted calling for the enlightenment of neighbors about the infamous lies."

ADN Agency, September 28, 1952:

Under the heading "No Foundation in RIAS Lies," ADN supplied an article for publication in the entire Communist press:

"The agitator US RIAS, as well as US agents, systematically try to alarm the DDR population. The agitation center intends to make the population believe that there will be food shortages. These enemies of Germany intend to stimulate hoarding."

"Die Freiheit", Halle, October 1, 1952:

Under the heading "We Do Not Tolerate Bandits in Our Higher Schools":

"Many highschool pupils collect information by listening to agitation broadcasts of the US station RIAS. This occurred merely because teachers and pupils have not fought consistently against hostile ideology - particularly against the RIAS influence."

"Tägliche Rundschau", Berlin, November 24, 1952:

Reports on the District Peace Conference in Berlin-Koepenick:

"The first secretary of the Greater Berlin Peace Committee, Heinz Zantoff, particularly referred to the peace work within the plants which depends on putting on good cultural performances together with the population and on leading a decisive fight against RIAS agitation and other instigators!"

"Schweriner Volkszeitung", November 13, 1952:

Describes a picture affixed to a house with the slogan:

"The inhabitants of this house want peace and unity! Therefore, nobody listens to RIAS! Follow our example!"

"Leipziger Volkszeitung", November 4, 1952:

In a commentary on the "Law on Gift Parcels" reports: "To what extent profiteers, speculators and saboteurs are affected by this measure is proved, among other things, by the hysterical fuss made by the agitator radio station RIAS with its fight against this law."

RIAS Spews Poison

Excerpts from a 20-page leaflet, published by the Society for Soviet-German Friendship.

"From the very beginning of its broadcasts RIAS has served the US agitation for a new war...."

"RIAS music broadcasts of Tschaikowsky or Russorgsky have nothing in common with the original compositions except for the notes - everything else, the expression, the pace, the rhythm are falsified. This is, of course, done expressly. RIAS does not want the listeners to realize the beauty of classical Russian music, but to find it dull. This, too, is nothing but anti-Soviet agitation....

"The shirt-sleeved US propaganda creatures, probably fully convinced of their smartness, have come to the conviction that thousands like to listen to dance or entertainment music broadcast with technical perfection, and when broadcasts of vital importance to RIAS like news, commentaries, etc., are put on, these listeners are too lazy to switch off the radio....

"To serve its purpose, RIAS tries through its broadcasts to shake our confidence in our own moral, economic, cultural and political strength....

"In their agitating campaign against the collective contracts and against the National Reconstruction Program they try to sabotage the creation of new social consciousness and the new attitude towards work....

"Our measures for the protection and separation of the Zone and Sector, which RIAS is lamenting have become necessary because of RIAS agitation to hamper our reconstruction and to frustrate our friendship with the Soviet Union ....

"Every RIAS broadcast is hostile to peace. Every RIAS broadcast means agitation against the Soviet Union because it is the strongest bulwark of peace in the whole world. All anti-Soviet agitation bears the character of a preparation for war ....

"We have not issued a law explicitly prohibiting listening to RIAS and other hostile radio stations. This would do too much honor for RIAS and the kindred Nordwestdeutscher Rundfunk. While the 'enemy' stations of the last war were the voices of conscience and the voices of truth, RIAS is the voice of crime and lies....

"Listening to RIAS is forbidden to every fair thinking man by the law of decency. He who wants to be 'informed' by RIAS neither knows the RIAS character nor has any character himself....

"Anybody listening to RIAS takes up its poison and will never remain immune against it. He loses immunity and will become by and by an

enemy of the Soviet Union and of free, independent peoples, an enemy of reconstruction and of the German nation. His conscience will be transformed gradually. Sooner or later he will use RIAS arguments in discussions and thus take part in the anti-Soviet RIAS agitation. From this it is no long way to committing offences against § 6 of our constitution and against the Law for the Protection of Peace...."

The Sin of "Objectivism"

"Neues Deutschland": " It would suit RIAS to have our comrades listening to it instead of reading Marx and Engels, Lenin and Stalin.... What the Party says, not what the enemy says, is decisive. For example, the decisive thing about RIAS is what the Party says about it: it lies."

"Leipziger Zeitung": "If Comrade L. means that one must listen to opposing arguments, he is wrong. Such an attitude is objectivism.... A comrade must listen where he hears the truth, and this will be transmitted to him by the radio stations of our republic and our Party's press."

"Freiheit," Halle: " Should you listen to RIAS? Is it right to do so? Comrade Rank gave the right answer when he expressed his opinion on such objectivism. First he recalled an article in 'Neues Deutschland.' This told about a father, mother and child. The child drinks from a bottle of poison. The mother wants to stop it, but the father says: 'Oh, let him alone. The child must learn everything.' We laugh. But it is the same with the poisoned ideology spread every day by RIAS in the interest of the warmongers."

"Volksstimme," Magdeburg: "In a conference of party functionaries at Bad Doberan one comrade asked the question whether it was not useful, in closed circles, to listen to RIAS or NWDR and then to carry on a discussion with the public in order to refute the opponent's arguments.... What healthy man would allow the germs of disease to take possession of his body so that he could then combat them?"

"Neuer Weg," a periodical published by the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party, carried a long article by Walter Kluge, a member of the Central Committee: "The recent trials of agents of the American secret service should have shown even the most unconcerned among us very



clearly that the enemy radio - RIAS ahead of all others - is decisively participating in the preparation and execution of crimes against the German Democratic Republic. These stations give hostile forces in the GDR 'rules of conduct' and try to reorganize their opposition. At the same time, the enemy radio tries to preserve and foster the backward capitalist thinking of a part of our population - for instance, against the principle of work output - to damage our development. The western stations and their broadcasts are a center of enemy resistance. To break the resistance of hostile forces in the GDR, a relentless struggle must be conducted against listening to the enemy radio. The task of impregnating the masses with socialist consciousness and destroying bourgeois ideologies can be accomplished faster and more easily through an energetic struggle against enemy radio propaganda. The struggle against listening to enemy stations gains even greater importance than formerly in view of the establishment of socialism in the GDR .... It is time that our party leaders, especially the county (Kreis) leaders, recognized this fact and acted accordingly."

#### Pure Abuse

"Neues Deutschland," official organ of the SED, June 21, 1950:

"RIAS has once more revealed itself for what it really is: a paid, stinking news-ulcer owned by foreign monopoly capitalists and criminal warmongers in the heart of Germany."

"Junge Welt," July, 30, 1952 (official organ of the FDJ):

"To open one's ear to the propaganda broadcasts of RIAS constitutes the first step on the road to crime, the first step towards the penitentiary..."

"Die Freiheit," Halle, August 1, 1950:

"Even the stupidest should by now have learned that RIAS is only a paid object of the warmongers. Everyone who feels as a German and thinks as a German will act as a German. He will regard RIAS as superfluous and wish it in hell."

Is Listening to RIAS Forbidden?

"Church and Radio," West German, February 13, 1950: "Despite contrary reports recently circulated in the West German press, we learn from Soviet Zone church authorities that no prohibition on listening to Western stations exists...,but having listened to West German or West Berlin stations plays a role when there are other charges against a man."

"Der Tag," West Berlin, February 12, 1950: "Kurt Frank of Roehmild, Thuringia, was sentenced by the Meiningen Criminal Court to four months in prison and a fine of 300 East Marks for having listened to West German radio stations."

"Saechsische Zeitung," Dresden, September 13, 1950: The paper reported that Frau Christa Wagner of Dresden had been sentenced to 18 months penal servitude for writing to RIAS. Although the Soviet Zone constitution guarantees secrecy of the mails, her letter had not reached RIAS, but was opened by the People's Police. (The case was reported in detail in the New York "Herald Tribune" of October, 3, 1950.)

"Die Welt," Hamburg, January 9, 1953: "The district court of Schwerin sentenced a farmer to seven years of hard labor for having repeated news which he had heard over RIAS .... He had stated that a 'Hero of Work' had fled to the West .... The verdict read 'libel and agitation against democratic organizations.'"

Despite the Risks, People Listen

(The newspapers quoted are all Communist-controlled.)

"Altenburger Nachrichten," May 31, 1950: "A cafe not far from Lunzenau offers its guests RIAS's reports on the FDJ rally. This is really too much."

"Maerkische Volksstimme", April 7, 1950: "People put up with it when .... radio dealer Kupiak daily and publicly lets RIAS shrill out its provocations."

"Freiheit," Wittenberg, July 26, 1950: "The Leuenburg, Schroeder and Beyrow families, Falkstrasse 16, Wittenberg, apparently still do not understand what is at stake. If they did, they would not let RIAS blare its commentaries into their ears far into the night. Not only that, they force the other tenants to listen to RIAS news by turning up their set to Volume 12."

"Neues Deutschland," December 17, 1952: Reports indignantly that RIAS was given free publicity at a radio and television exhibit sponsored by state HO (commercial monopoly) in East Berlin: "When our reporter visited the exhibit, she really heard the warmongering RIAS news coming out of a radio set. A HO salesman, who was playing around another set less than two paces away, paid no attention. He even showed signs of annoyance when his attention was directed to this. The representative of the State Director for HO Industrial Goods, Mr. Stiller, assumed an almost unbelievable attitude when this was pointed out to him. He claimed that the clients on their own tuned in to RIAS: "In testing a set they always want to listen to music." Another salesman displaying tape recording machines even stated: "We cut the best tapes by tuning in to RIAS or NWDR!" The laboring population of Berlin .... expects to be informed immediately on what is being done to .... put an end to those practises, and also .... what is done to those who are personally responsible for spreading RIAS war mongering."

Although there is constant agitation in Soviet Zone universities and colleges against listening to RIAS broadcasts, students and teachers tune in RIAS. Even at the so-called "Worker and Peasant Faculties" (special colleges for children of the "proletarian class"), centers of Communist indoctrination, students listen to the "warmonger station." This was acknowledged by the Secretary General of the SED, Walter Ulbricht, who declared in his guidance speech at the Second Party Conference of the SED in the summer of 1952.

"Those students who, at the Worker and Peasant College in Rostock, organized collective listening to RIAS broadcasts, should have been enlightened by a delegation of workers of the Neptune Shipbuilding Plant; maybe they would then have recognized sooner what the tasks of the Worker and Peasant Colleges are!"

The Soviet Zone Listeners

(At the beginning of October, 1950, RIAS was receiving about 5,000 political letters a month from the Soviet Zone. This figure had decreased considerably by 1952 because of internal controls and pressures in the Soviet Zone. The following excerpts are chosen almost at random from the files of the station's Political Department.)

General:

Fraeulein W.K., Refugee Camp Hof-Maschendorf, Bavaria, October 15, 1949:

"RIAS is like a beloved son of America whom America has sent to Germany to pour consolation and hope into troubled, discouraged hearts."

Frau A.A., Eberswalde, December 12, 1949: "It is like being in church when we hear something from RIAS that consoles us."

Anonymous, Mecklenburg, May, 1950: "Listening to you, I feel less isolated and brought closer to all of you. It delights me to hear how well informed you are on conditions here."

R.F., no address given, May 21, 1950: "I can say without intending to flatter you that the entire Soviet Zone population listens to RIAS."

E.E., Anklam, July 8, 1950: "We listen to your broadcasts gladly because they keep us in touch with the spirit of the West."

Anonymous, Potsdam, August, 1950: "We regard RIAS as our station, though the Soviets may call it the station of monopoly capitalism and so forth."

A woman of 70 from the Sovzone, March 5, 1951: "We are so glad and thankful to you for the service you render us day by day. We only wish that you keep on with your work, remain superior to your enemies on the air and keep contact with us as the 'big friend', I mean the real one (not the one of 'Eastern' origin), for us who are barred from the West. You are the only one informing us of the truth and of world events!"

A businessman from Dresden, June 12, 1951: "Your broadcasts are a blessing for our tormented hearts. We are on your side and we are extremely thankful for your enlightenment, warnings and hints."

C.V.E. from Erfurt, August, 1952: "Your broadcasts fill the spiritual needs of Sovzone listeners and are listened to with eager and vivid interest."

Anonymous letter from Halle, November 1952: "May I thank you for many unable to do so, for the fact that your station continues to be the bridge connecting us with the free world. What would the Sovzone be today without RIAS? Only the future will show how RIAS has strengthened the resistance and the community spirit."

Anonymous, November 13, 1952: "What should we Soviet Zone residents be without RIAS? We are indebted to RIAS for learning the truth. We are longing for West Berlin and its place of culture." -

Soviet Zone resident, November 22, 1952: "As a Soviet Zone resident I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your daily broadcasts, which are on such a high level and have become really indispensable for us. Your broadcasts constitute the daily bread for all Soviet Zone residents, since they keep us informed on everything that is really happening in our Zone. If you did not inform us we should never find out what is going on and our resistance would soon crumble."

Comments from Occupation Groups:

Dr. Winand Lanzrath, senior government counsellor, Berlin, February 13, 1950: "I have been asked by many residents of Weida, Thuringia, to express to RIAS their deepest gratitude for the broadcasts that have given them the courage to hold out and continue the struggle."

Anonymous businessman: "Dear RIAS: Am in Berlin today from Thuringia and must take this opportunity to express my thanks for your wonderful news and commentaries.... I am a businessman and meet many people every day. All of them are fed up with SED economy. Tell this to the Americans."

W.Z., District director in Riesa: "This is a welcome opportunity to thank you most heartily for your political broadcasts. I do not exaggerate when stating that it is mainly for your broadcasts that life appears to me worth living."

Postal employee, Spremberg: "For us in the Soviet Zone your daily broadcasts are a beam of hope and confidence that sustains us in this big prison."

Farm woman, near Bitterfeld, June 8, 1950: "No, your broadcasts are not 'cyanide,' but balm for a torn heart...."

Craftsman, no address, June 12, 1950: "You are the only station that shows knowledge and vigor in this fortress of the bolshevist German Democratic Republic. A faithful Soviet Zone craftsman greets you with thanks."

Worker, June 12, 1950: " I don't need to spend much time saying what you, dear RIAS, mean to us in the Soviet Zone. Your voice is as necessary to us as our daily bread.... Only your broadcasts and the thought of our families enable us to bear so much."

Housewife from Chemnitz, November, 1952: "I have waited for years for the opportunity to get to Berlin for the purpose of expressing our sincerest thanks for the help RIAS has given us."

Dipl.Ing. D.V. from Duerenberg/Saxony, December, 1952: "RIAS means to us the only mental food we get in the Sovzone. May RIAS keep on as it has so far: fair, decent and always reporting the truth."

Refugee View: A man now living in Trier writes: "I have been in the Federal Republic for two weeks. Before that I was a resident of the 'GDR'. At the moment, unfortunately, we have no radio, so I cannot hear RIAS. In the Soviet Zone it was my one and all, for it was instructive, it was entertaining, and above all, it preserved my faith in freedom. I can tell you that RIAS is popular in the Soviet Zone and is heard in almost every household. For people living behind the Iron Curtain, constantly terrorized and politically burdened, it is pleasure and relaxation to hear the interesting and informative program of RIAS. I wish to thank RIAS in the name of more than 16 million Germans behind the Iron Curtain for its blessed work."

RESPONSE TO SPECIAL BROADCASTS, EAST AND WEST

Campaign against Soviet Zone concentration camps:

Former Soviet concentration camp inmate: "You were foremost among those who worked for us, who took up the cause of humanity.... And it is thanks to your intensive aid that the light of a new day will find us free men again."

Anonymous, Soviet Zone, January, 1950: "In the prison we were able to hear RIAS once in a while. I must tell you that on long, anxious days you were a powerful support to us and that your broadcasts gave many despairing men new hope for the future and a belief in freedom."

Anonymous, Soviet Zone, March 8, 1950: " Your active and fearless protests, repeated again and again for all the world to hear, have helped bring about the release of many thousands of prisoners."

G.K., Berlin-Neukölln, March 13, 1950: "Nine days ago I had the great luck to leave the Buchenwald internment camp, near Goethe's Weimar.... Among those who cared about us, who intervened for humanity, was RIAS. Please accept my warmest thanks for your courageous intervention. Gratitude and greetings from a new faithful listener."

The Berlin May Day Rally

Berlin's annual May Day rally is attended by hundreds of thousands of East and West Berliners, who come to demonstrate to the world Berlin's determination to remain free. RIAS's part in getting out these great gatherings has been acknowledged in such statements as these:

"I am sure that the leaders of the demonstration would never have gotten the crowd out without RIAS to help them. I heard many leading Germans express their admiration for the effectiveness with which your radio station operated at this important time."

- Major General Maxwell D. Taylor  
US Commander in Berlin

"I feel personally obligated to thank all the RIAS staff for the extraordinary cooperation which you gave the Berlin population and us (the city officials) in preparation for the May Day rally."

- Ernst Reuter  
Lord Mayor of Berlin

"All organizations represented in the Berlin May Committee 1950 were delighted by the superior assistance given by RIAS. Through this energetic aid, RIAS has contributed greatly toward the creation of a democratic conviction and toward making this year's May Day rally, the largest one ever in Berlin, a great success."

- Stefan Hoyzer  
Independent Trade Union  
Organization of Berlin

The FDJ Rally, Berlin, May, 1950:

"Volksstimme," Magdeburg, April 8, 1950: "RIAS, with lies and distortions, is trying to frighten parents into keeping their children from going to Berlin."

"Freiheit," Halle, April 11, 1950: "Vicious inflammatory speeches over RIAS .... have had such an influence on many parents that they are forbidding their sons and daughters to participate in the Whitsun meeting."

"Volksstimme," Sachsen, April 23, 1950: "RIAS .... cannot be silent about the youth meeting in Berlin, so it broadcasts the most senseless rumors."

Radio Berlin, May 30, 1950: "The FDJ members behaved quietly, of course, and demonstrated only in the Soviet Sector .... RIAS asserted that they were coming to it. This was only a matter of certain criminal elements." (The "criminal elements" were, in fact, almost 2,500 interested young people from the Soviet Zone, most of them eager to see the West and to hear Western opinion.)



### Other Evidence of Effectiveness

#### The Police State (one example):

On June 29, 1950, RIAS warned Soviet Zone listeners that mills and grain storerooms would be subject to strict inspection the following morning. One listener wrote: "The announcement saved not only my father but a number of others in the same business from having their mills closed or perhaps expropriated. What RIAS means to us business people in the Soviet Zone is something only we can judge." Another listener sent the following report: "The message was a great success. Shortly after it was broadcast the mill owners of this county took the necessary measures."

#### "The Next Step to German Unity in Freedom:"

On July 16, 1950, RIAS announced a prize-letter contest on the theme "The Next Step to German Unity in Freedom." Prizes offered ranged from books to 1,000 DM. Soviet Zone participants were instructed to submit their letters under a code name and a five-digit number. Judges were Jakob Kaiser, Federal Minister for National Affairs (the Ministry offered a special prize of 1,000 DM); Ernst Reuter, Lord Mayor of Berlin; Herbert Wehner, Bundestag deputy and chairman of the Bundestag Committee for National Affairs; and Eugen Kogon, well-known Frankfurt publicist and author of "The SS State."

When the contest closed on September 18, the station had received 19,764 entries. Of these, 13,907 came from the Soviet Zone; 1,802 from the Soviet Sector of Berlin; 3,438 from West Berlin; and 617 from the Federal Republic. All but four of the 21 prize winners were residents of the Soviet Zone. One of the West Berlin winners was an unemployed worker, another a student and political refugee.

#### The Communist Collective Contracts

It is widely recognized in Germany that RIAS played the leading part in a major Communist setback in 1951. The Soviet Zone regime had planned to introduce factory collective contracts throughout the Zone with the apparent consent of the workers, although close examination of the contracts showed that they would mean a backward step for Soviet German labor. Largely because of RIAS's early and protracted intervention, the measure was delayed until almost the end of the

year and in the end had to be forced through against the open resistance of the workers.

The station began its campaign against the contracts early in March, 1951. The Communists expected to push through all contracts by June 30. When that date came, 25,000 contracts were still unsigned, and some of them were barely completed before Christmas. Meantime, the Soviet Zone regime was forced to change its tactics again and again, and to engage in open debate with the American radio station in Free Berlin.

RIAS first analyzed the contracts factually, in early morning broadcasts for workers and in evening broadcasts for the general population, pointing out all the specific disadvantages incorporated into them. Then it asked over and over who and what would benefit from the increased exploitation of the individual Soviet German worker. Then the answer was hammered home: ultimately and primarily, the Soviet Union and its armament effort. At this point the station was in close contact with Soviet Zone workers and could begin giving practical, detailed advice on ways to combat the contracts without serious danger.

As resistance appeared, RIAS publicized all examples of it heavily, to encourage factory staffs which had not yet been presented with contracts for their plants. The SED was forced to disown the methods of its own "trade union," the FDGB, and the terminal date for conclusion of the contracts was postponed from month to month.

A totalitarian regime is always able, in the end, to impose its will. The collective contracts were eventually imposed. But the important point is: they were imposed upon, not adopted by, the workers, as the Communists had hoped and planned. When the contracts for 1952 were drafted, the Communists issued a detailed guide to local functionaries charged with securing acceptance of the contracts. It offered specific instruction on how to prevent a second RIAS success in this field.

#### The World Youth Festival, 1951

During the month of August, 1951, the Communists staged the so-called World Youth Festival in East Berlin, with more than two million members of the Communist "Free German Youth" (FDJ) from all parts of the Soviet Zone

participating. In the course of the festival more than 1,500,000 youngsters, in spite of discouragement of all sorts, crossed the sectoral borders and more than 13,000 of them visited RIAS to tell of their needs and ask for advice and assistance. They were received and entertained in the largest RIAS studio and enthusiastically listened to popular RIAS programs and dance music of the West, forbidden in the Soviet Zone. The youngsters also had the opportunity to listen to, meet, and ask questions of Mr. John J. McCloy, US High Commissioner, Dr. Kurt Schumacher, Chairman of the SPD, Jakob Kaiser, Federal Minister for All-German Affairs, and many other political personalities.

A 17-year-old FDJ member best summed up the feelings of the visitors in stating "Here in this radio station we are really human beings. Here we can say what we think and not what has been hammered into us in our zone!"

Example of Minor Campaign Indicating Effectiveness  
of RIAS Youth Broadcasts

In February, 1952, the Central Council of the FDJ became aware of a growing apathy and lethargy in the ranks of its followers caused by an overconcentration on political indoctrination and training. In order to stimulate FDJ members and instil them with new spirit, the Central Council called for criticism and self-criticism and, after purges of some functionaries, proceeded to announce publicly the new slogan of "joyful youth activities" with programs of sports, games and dancing. Notwithstanding this announcement, political indoctrination continued to take up the major part of the FDJ programs.

RIAS then picked up the slogan of "joyful youth activities" in five broadcasts directed to Soviet Zone youth, suggesting that only such chairmen be elected locally as would implement programs of sports, games and dancing.

"If the Central Council (of the FDJ) in its criticism talks of ever decreasing basic units, it confirms the possibilities which you have been able to realize following the Youth Festival. And if the council now publicly demands the introduction of the 'joyful youth activities'

program with sports, games and dancing, it only proves how the situation has deteriorated. You can take the wind out of the sails of the Central Council by electing such local chairman as will really represent your interests."

The result of this type of broadcast, which continued through March, was that 8000 newly elected local FDJ chairmen were not confirmed by the Central Council and were labeled "unreliable." Large-scale protests did finally lead to their confirmation and to an item in "Junge Welt" (central organ of the FDJ):

"American sabotage officers are trying to hinder the work of our basic units by encouraging sports, games and dancing through their youth broadcasts. We must fight such poison."

#### The FDP Convention, November, 1952

On the occasion of the Free Democratic Party Convention RIAS carried excerpts and reviews of the proceedings. - Franz Blücher, Deputy Chancellor of the Federal Republic and chairman of the FDP, acknowledged RIAS's part by stating:

"I feel the need to express my heartiest thanks for your generous understanding and the objective manner in which you reported the convention of the FDP in Bad Ems ...."

### WHAT RIAS SAYS

RIAS is on the air 24 hours a day. 29% of this time is devoted to straight news, politics and other broadcasts predominantly political in nature. The scripts translated for reproduction here are merely samples of a large output. They reflect the content of standing broadcasts only, not of the station's unusually heavy production of special broadcasts, political cabaret, and on-the-spot coverage of major events.

#### Broadcasts to the Soviet Zone

On May 6, 1949, RIAS began a regular twice-weekly, 15-minute program called "Broadcast for Central Germany" (Sendung für Mitteldeutschland). With its warnings against Soviet agents and up-to-date news from the Zone, it was an immediate success. In 1950 it was expanded frequently, until it was on the air for 15 minutes every night but Sunday, at the Zone's best listening hour (1945), and was repeated twice in daylight hours. On October 16, 1950, it was expanded again, in response to listener demand. Under the title "Berlin Speaks to the Zone" ("Berlin spricht zur Zone") - which became necessary when RIAS increased its power to cover all the German East - a new broadcast is presented daily, in addition to five other daily political broadcasts for the Soviet Zone.

#### Recent examples of "Berlin Speaks to the Zone"

Sample commentary by Martin Koch in "Berlin Speaks to the Zone", August 18, 1952:

" Good evening!

It is an old story that the Communist newspapers devote very little space to reports on what is really happening in the Soviet Zone, the daily struggle for mere existence, the tensions and the real developments - of which there are plenty. Only now and then, when it becomes absolutely necessary, they will lift the curtain of newspapers, banners and placards making up the tissue of propaganda hiding the real facts. Usually such a move prepares the way for certain intentions for which the Communists are preparing the way. Either the system wants to show you that after all it knows what is going

on, or concrete examples from daily life are used as a peg on which to hang admonitions, or sometimes threats, addressed to all those who fall into a similar category.

"A story of that type appeared in yesterday's "Neues Deutschland," based on events which had happened in the village of Friedrichsaue in the county of Seelow. There a producers' co-operative was to have been founded. Farmers Teike, Langner, Kratsch and Streit were ready to found such an organization. These four "new farmers" (Neubauern - farmers recently settled on land from expropriated estates) scheduled the meeting for August 7. It was well attended because the farmers of Friedrichsaue who wanted to maintain their independence said to themselves that it would be useful to attend and to have a look at the people who wanted to give up their independence. Just as everywhere else opponents of the producers' co-operative were by far in the majority. The advocates of the co-operative thereupon preferred to withdraw to a private dwelling to found their organization. Subsequently they returned to the local inn with the intention of advertising their foundation and recruiting additional members. This led to a fist-fight between the adherents of the producers' co-operative and those farmers who wanted to maintain their independence.

"These are the facts. How did the Central Organ of the Socialist Unity Party play up these facts? It developed a whole chain of consequences which allegedly stemmed from this fist-fight. There is talk of the opportunistic attitude of the leading party functionaries vis-à-vis hostile elements of the village, and then of course there is talk of the "Grossbauern" (farmers with relatively large land holdings) having dared to lift a hand against progress, as the paper literally stated. The paper refers to progress as represented in Friedrichsaue by such people as the musician Kratsch, as opposed to the Grossbauern, who do not take proper care of the harvest, who set fire to their barns, who sabotage the delivery quotas, etc, etc. The Politburo concerns itself with the question; so does the Central Control Commission. The Peoples' Police interrogates almost two dozen people and arrests some.

"What does all this add up to? Well, it is a fact that a fist-fight took place in Friedrichsaue, but no Grossbauern participated. The only two who live in Friedrichsaue did not even attend the meeting and therefore were not present at the fight. They stayed away from this meeting and

similar ones which might endanger their existence. They endeavored to meet their delivery quotas; otherwise they kept quiet, so as not to give the Communists a cheap excuse to proceed against them. Besides these two there are nine "Altbauern" (farmers who already had land before the partition of the estates) with land holdings between 20 and 80 acres. Obviously they are enemies of the producers' co-operative and of course they are not adherents of the anti-farmer SED regime. However, they did not take part in the fight and they take great pains not to furnish the Communists with pretexts which will enable them to proceed against them. The interesting fact contained in the article in "Neues Deutschland" concerning the events at Friedrichsaue is that the enemies of the producers' co-operative who became so emotional as to engage in a fist-fight were members of the SED and moreover were not "Altbauern", but belonged to the class of "new farmers." In this connection it is completely irrelevant that Büttner formerly owned a large butcher shop in Breslau. His estate in Friedrichsaue is kept up efficiently; and how he does it is his business, after all.

"Anyhow the "Grossbauern" had nothing to do with the whole affair, but they get most of the blame.

"What are the consequences of these events? First of all, they give proof that the Communists are now planning to attribute every resistance to their intentions to evil machinations by the "Grossbauern," in order to justify more stringent measures against them. Furthermore, the Communists will exploit every opportunity to proceed against the enemies of the producers' co-operatives in their own ranks as soon as a plausible excuse offers itself. And third, with this unusually large spread in the papers of such a small and insignificant fist-fight, the SED issues an unmistakable warning addressed to village mayors and other functionaries in the rural areas to step up collectivization of Soviet Zone agriculture.

"What does all this mean for you, our listeners? It indicates that whereas you should not decrease your resistance, you should be more careful than some of the farmers in Friedrichsaue. The founding of a producers' co-op can be prevented by other means. One can prevent the joining of producers' co-ops by other means than those applied

by the farmers of Friedrichsaue. The article which "Neues Deutschland" carried yesterday shows how the Communists try to exploit such developments. It also shows how they intend to proceed in similar cases and we all know that there are plenty of similar cases. Since physical disagreements in connection with foundations of producers' co-ops are daily occurrences, the Friedrichsaue experiences should serve as a warning to our listeners to be even more careful than up to now and to consider carefully their resistance actions and above all not to allow themselves to be provoked.

Good evening!"

Sample commentary by Mathias Walden in "Berlin Speaks to the Zone,"  
December 11, 1952:

Dear Listeners:

"An animal that devours its own young will obviously have no descendants. It will cease to exist at the time of its own death. Most likely you have heard the familiar quotation, "The revolution devours its own children." When the revolutionary elite of the Soviet Union was liquidated in the cellars and woods, on the gallows and stakes, this quotation, dating back to the French Revolution, assumed new meaning. But this principle has been lived up to wherever Communist despotism has backwashed into the offices and palaces of the Party and its functionaries, to take its victims from among those who started it.

"None of those who still today spread terror and fear is without terror and fear himself. Everybody is subject to these emotions and the activities of state and Party functionaries have assumed characteristics of utmost danger to life and limb for those who perform them.

"Slansky's death on the gallows was the most recent proof of this fact. And now things are beginning to simmer in the Soviet Zone. They seem to have approached the same situation there. One minister and one Communist state secretary were dismissed. Minister President Grotewohl, himself endangered, announced stiff punishments for those responsible for the mismanagement. In Klein-Machnow the whole local government set-up became inoperative from one day to the next because of arrests by the State Security Service. In the anthracite mining field leading managers disappeared. In rural areas SED comrades who did not obey right away had to



move from Party offices to jails. And finally, today, the Liberal Democratic Party of the Zone issued a statement approving of the dismissal of Hamman and announcing a strict screening of all state functionaries of the LDP. Furthermore, the activities of all LDP functionaries are to be placed under continuous surveillance in the future. Nuschke's CDU issued a statement in the same vein. The time of the great purges has arrived. Nobody knows exactly who will be next. Everybody suspects everybody, and every evening the fear of their own system goes to bed with those who are still the rulers today, and in the morning that fear rises with them. Some, however, and among them is Kreikemeyer, are already waiting for trial. Those people who now feel the sword of Damocles hanging over their heads did not need the Prague example to find out the chances and risks connected with being functionaries of the Party. All they need to do is to look around, wherever the arm of the Kremlin reaches: it is the same story everywhere.

" In Bulgaria almost exactly three years ago Traitsche Kostow died on the gallows. He was Secretary General of the Communist Party and Deputy Minister President. Together with him ten other leading state functionaries were convicted, among them the Minister of Foreign Trade and the Minister of Finance. Even the Chief of the State Secret Service became a victim of the purge. In Hungary Leszlo Rajk died on the gallows on October 15, 1949. He was a member of the Politburo and Foreign Minister. In Poland Wladyslaw Gomulka is still awaiting trial. He was Secretary General of the Communist Party and Deputy Minister President. In Rumania Foreign Minister Anna Pauker became a victim of the purge. It is not known for sure if she has been arrested in the meantime. The Attorney General of the Rumanian People's Republic, Coitinovitoi, was dismissed during this year. In Albania the Secretary General of the Communist Party, Kotschi Dsodas, was executed in 1949. Obviously these examples are not complete.

"And the developments in Czechoslovakia are still in everybody's mind. Nobody will think that Slansky was the last one. But one thing is startling, namely that so far it has struck more severely in all Moscow-controlled countries, including the Soviet Union itself, than in the German Democratic Republic. Since socialism is to be built

there now, there can be no doubt that with the progressive tightening of the situation radical purges will follow according to plan. After all, it is well known that Moscow issues the same fatherly guidance to all its Communist children. In short, it is now the turn of the gentlemen from Pankew. The assignment of responsible offices in state and Party becomes less attractive from day to day. A racy BMW (Soviet Zone automobile) and a villa with a bodyguard do not make up for a prolonged retirement in Siberia and still less for a death by hanging. All those who today still express their indignation at higher headquarters over the actions of their comrades, in order to avoid similar fates, can very well be made to assume the role of accused in show trials by threatening prosecutors. This is the story and nobody can or wants to help them. He who sells himself to the system has no right to complain if the system kills him. All these supercomrades sit in a train whose engineer once in a while takes pleasure in dumping a few passengers on the tracks.

"It has sometimes been said that the Communist dictatorship enjoys a factor which, although bad in nature, puts it ahead of the democracies. That is the possibility of giving orders without parliamentary procedure with its wear and tear. This advantage, which the democracies according to their very nature have given up voluntarily, is also voluntarily relinquished by the Communists because they wear out themselves and each other. Not only has the revolution devoured its own children, but the system which evolved from the revolution has not relinquished the maintenance of this tradition. Pankow is now going to find out how high the cost of this procedure will be. Good Evening!"

A feature of vital interest to Soviet Zone residents, unmasking Communist agents is the

W a r n i n g S e r v i c e,

part of the Soviet Zone program "Berlin Speaks to the Zone."

1st SPEAKER: In conclusion, warnings from the East Bureau of the Social Democratic Party.

2nd SPEAKER: Attention, Niesky, - attention, Niesky!

- 1st SPEAKER: Johannes B R U E C K N E R - Brueckner. Lives on Zinsendorfer-Platz. Is setting up a State Security Service office in Niesky. This is located in the buildings of the County Economic Enterprise on Koenigshainerstrasse.
- 2nd SPEAKER: Erna H O E R G O T T - Hoergott, born Popitz, Brueckner's secretary in the county police headquarters. Married to ....
- 1st SPEAKER: Commissar H O E R G O T T - Hoergott, former head of Department K 5. About 32 years old. Both have connections with the State Security Service.
- 2nd SPEAKER: Attention, Glauchau - attention, Glauchau!
- 1st SPEAKER: The SSD office is located in the villa formerly occupied by factory director Goermann, on Plantagenstrasse. The head of the office is ....
- 2nd SPEAKER: M I T T A G - Mittag, former head of Department K 5. Lives in Glauchau-Rotenbach. His deputy is ....
- 1st SPEAKER: Richard N O E T Z E L - Noetzel. Lives at Lungwitzerstrasse 30. Fanatical SED man.
- 2nd SPEAKER: Attention, Weisswasser - attention, Weisswasser, Oberlausitz!
- 1st SPEAKER: Police Inspector M A C K - Mack. In charge of certain FDJ activities.
- 2nd SPEAKER: Attention, Calau - attention, Calau, Niederlausitz!
- 1st SPEAKER: Gustav M U E H L B R E D T - Muehlbrecht. Lives on Bahnhofstrasse. Now in Senftenberg as head of the works police at the Ilse Mines.
- 2nd SPEAKER: Further warnings follow.

### Pinsel and Schnorchel

For more than two years "Comrades Pinsel and Schnorchel" - the two 250% Communists - have brought chuckles to East and West German listeners. Every Saturday evening RIAS broadcasts a conversation between the two, usually meeting in the tavern "Ye Olde Red Mill." Schnorchel

is an eager and loyal functionary who always follows the Party line, whereas Pinsel is the fellow who tries to follow Party doctrines through the labyrinth of changing theories with a certain amount of naiveté and scepticism. The opening sentence by Schnorchel "And let me tell you, Pinsel, there is something rotten -" has become known all over the Zone - the trademark for a funny show filled with solid political punches.

A recent Pinsel and Schnorchel broadcast: Comrade Pinsel appears with a heavily bandaged head at the customary evening meeting in the tavern. Schnorchel's questions concerning the cause are finally answered:

- Pinsel : I admit, comrade Schnorchel, I have broken Party discipline, I have been listening to RIAS! But I always turn it on very low.
- Schnorchel : But that is more serious!
- Pinsel : Schnorchel, let me tell you, the other night it was completely dark. I walked around the house again in order to see if my radio set could be heard outside.
- Schnorchel : Pinsel!
- Pinsel : It was really a bit too loud for the SSD (State Security Service), but before I could go inside in order to turn the radio down I got hit from behind with a blackjack and I was seeing stars and losing my ideological conscience completely!
- Schnorchel : Just punishment!
- Pinsel : But I could not recognize the assailant in that darkness. Three days I spent in bed, comrade Schnorchel!
- Schnorchel : Well, and --
- Pinsel : On this third day in the evening there was a Party activist meeting. I used up all my remaining strength to go to it. Topic of the night was: "Anti-RIAS campaign must be stepped up." I got goose pimples all over! Suddenly comrade Ungetuem (monster) - a good Party worker, you know this stupid guy - moves up to me and whispers in my ear:

"Pinsel, if you should listen to RIAS or NWDR in the evening, please turn your radio down a bit." I responded: "Why?" And he replied: "The other night I walked by your house, when I saw a character sneaking around and listening. Well, let me tell you, I let him have it. He saw stars. Well, I just wanted to tell you, that's all."

Schnorchel : Well, he took you under his personal care out of his feeling of solidarity.

Pinsel : You know, comrade Schnorchel, this fellow Ungetuem is the same guy who came to me some time ago and said, "Comrade Pinsel, I am cold, I have no coal." And I talked to him and gave him 20 volumes of Stalin's works and I advised him to read them and to learn how the workers of the Soviet Union go about getting a warm room through selfless study of Stalin - but what do you think, the following day he was back and asked for 20 more volumes!

Schnorchel : What do you mean? You don't mean to say that he had read those 20 volumes in one day?!

Pinsel : Why read - he did not read them, he has an excellent stove at home!

Schnorchel : Well! that is --- the last straw. What should one do with such miserable comrades? Best thing to do would be to stick them into the national army, at least they would be taught discipline there!

Pinsel : Well, you know, our national forces are not so hot either. You know, I was going to volunteer for the sea police, but when I reported they asked me, "can you swim?" Well, that scared me. I left right away. I have said again and again they don't have any boats.

Schnofchel : Now, Pinsel, don't be so dejected. Take it easy!

Pinsel : I think I had better go and get myself elected to the local works council. There I can peacefully dis-

tribute pamphlets, shoe polish, calendars and whatever else comes up, and if things should change I can open up a street stand."

Schnorchel: Nonsense! You are needed just like everybody else. After all, you are not stupid, you may even become famous some day. .

Pinzel : You think so? You know, I am already famous, judging by what people have been saying. Move a little closer, comrade Schnorchel: in school the teacher asked the boys during a current affairs class: "Who can name two famous progressive politicians?" No answer. In order to make it easier, he gave them the initials P and S, thinking of Pieck and Stalin.

Schnorchel: Well, what happened --?

Pinzel : What do you think was the response which the whole class gave in chorus? "Pinzel and Schnorchel !!!"

Sample Commentary by Egon Bahr, RIAS correspondent in Bonn, August 7, 1952

"Dear listeners!

"Our greatest enemies are indolence and habit. The spice of the unusual will never keep people in suspense for long, and this human weakness is the best ally of every dictatorship. We can be utterly enthusiastic or enraged over some incident, but we can not maintain these feelings. And we can not reach the same or relative emotional climax if the incident occurs en masse. One or two men were killed, what a tragic event! A thousand men are killed daily in a war, but, apart from their families, who else speaks of it? Thousandfold tragedy for thousands of days - instead of the climax to be expected, there is actually a diminution of feelings; it has become habit, although more deaths undoubtedly mean more grief.

"A man was abducted, and everybody talked about it. Tomorrow a month will have passed since Dr. Linse was abducted. The vehement indignation which arose all over the world has not remained the same as in the first days after the crime. Furthermore, Dr. Linse was not the only one abducted during these 30 days, but who knows all the others? Well, we can not change the characteristics and habits of this strange animal known as the human being, but where emotions and feelings cannot be maintained, reason and determination must be called upon to remind, to admonish and to urge, no matter whether this is comfortable or not.

"The Linse case as well as all the others must not be forgotten. It should serve as a warning to many people- although not all, thank God - that the recent note of protest by Deputy US High Commissioner Reber has brought the name Linse back to the front pages of the newspapers. It is most reassuring to see that the Americans keep on pushing this case. This protest constitutes not only a psychological, but also a political move.

"After the Soviet Zone newspapers have cynically acknowledged the abduction of Dr. Linse, there are only two answers to the American questions addressed to Chuikov. Either he admits that the title "Control Commission" is a misnomer and the Soviets are, therefore, not in a position to find out what happens in their zone, or they must acknowledge

this heinous crime. Nobody would believe the first answer, while the second would confirm that such a crime can be committed with Soviet approval. In that case, one really can not expect anybody to believe the Soviet assurances that the Soviet Union wishes the reunification of Germany on the basis of democratic freedom.

"It is difficult to understand anyhow how Germans are expected to sit down with such individuals for discussions before the abducted are set free or are at least submitted to incontestable legal procedures. This obviously does not include trials in which so-called judges attempt to fill their quota of convictions prior to the deadline. These staged trials, not based on genuine espionage or sabotage evidence, but only on monotonously recurring cruelty designed to break the spirit of resistance in the population, will be discussed at a later date.

"Even the mechanized uniformity of the trials has a purpose, - that of spreading the poison of habit in the Soviet Zone population. But it is up to every individual in the Sovzone as well as in the Federal Republic and Berlin to fight and inoculate himself against this poison. After this protest, however, which has become more than a US-Soviet affair, because the British and French High Commissioners have also brought it up, the Soviets will have to realize that the West is determined to protect and to defend the principle of freedom of the individual, no matter how small and insignificant he may be.

"The rights of all abducted persons are inalienable and they will always remain the first point on the agenda when the Soviets do want to discuss things with us.



A Sample Commentary by Heinz Frentzel, Chief of the Foreign Affairs  
Section (September 22, 1952):

"Good evening !

"Looking back at what has happened during the past twelve days in Strasbourg, one comes to the conclusion that the situation has changed considerably and noticeably. The fact that the European Coal & Steel Community will prepare a draft treaty for a federation or confederation of the six countries presently participating actually constitutes a fundamental advance pointing towards a supranational political union of European countries.

"Developments of such eminent political importance as this one - once they have been introduced - usually produce their own strong dynamics. You cannot turn them back; they move on steadily, at their own speed. The expressed confidence shown by the Belgian Socialist Paul Henri Spaak, President of the Coal and Steel Community, with regard to the success of this undertaking is, therefore, absolutely justified. It is, however, not advisable to expect too much and above all not to expect it too quickly.

"The debate of the free European nations here in Strasbourg revealed that even the most eager advocates of the political federation for the six Coal and Steel Community countries will not create an exclusive and self-sufficient federal state or a federation of states, but that the intended political union is to be effected in close contact with the other free European nations which are not yet participating in the Community. This union shall be nothing more than the nucleus from which an all European union could develop gradually.

"Therefore the countries not willing to participate in the planned supranational union of the six have been given an influential voice, but, of course, no right to vote.

"The fact that Great Britain, the Scandinavian and the Southeast European countries will also have a voice, will play a decisive role with regard to the speed and the extent of the political union of the countries of the Coal and Steel Community.

"There is not the slightest reason for regretting this fact, on the contrary, it will lead to a reasonable medium course between precipitation and hesitation, and, as we hope, our own great national interest - the reunification of Germany - will be duly considered.

"As far as the union itself is concerned, there are - apart from quite a few obstacles lying ahead - two possibilities: either a federal state will be created as suggested by a committee of constitutional experts, or a federation of states will arise which would maintain part of their sovereignty for the time being, but would execute defense and foreign policy jointly on a supranational basis.

"However, there is no reason for the exclusive creation of either the one or the other. A federation of states of this kind will not be enough for the governments of the participating countries, and a perfect federal state is hardly realizable for the time being. Possibly planning in the future will point towards a more united federation of states showing a tendency toward a federal state development.

"Within the next six months we will certainly know more about it. Such a supranational federation would and should, of course, allow the free nations to join it any time. In particular, this federation should guarantee close contacts with Great Britain.

"An isolated, self-sufficient Continental European community is impossible; it can only exist and develop if from the very beginning it intends to strengthen cooperation with the other nations represented in the European Council as well as with the British Commonwealth and the Atlantic Community. And this, too, is the wish of the fathers and advocates of this federation and the premise on which the success of this undertaking will depend.

"If both participating groups prepare a draft treaty for a political union of the six countries of the Coal and Steel Community - with due respect for the views of the other participants - a solution will be found which will not only satisfy both the partners (this would not be enough) but will lead to an ever increasing prosperity of the continent, coupled with the strengthening of its defensive capacity and the will of free Europe to maintain its position.

Good Evening!"

Sample Commentary (October 25, 1952) by Dr. Anton Schoepke, director of the Borsig Works at Berlin-Tegel who delivers a weekly "Current Economics Report" over RIAS.

"There are two approaches to the socio-economic situation: on the one hand, striving for a balance between the highest possible gross national product and economic possibilities and requirements; on the other hand, placing a social dream picture before a reality and then demanding that reality conform with the dream picture. It need not be said that the first approach, in the province of the economist, can be most unpopular, whereas the second approach will find approval much easier. In this connection it should not be disregarded that the concept of a dream picture actually often does influence economic reality up to a certain degree and moreover awakens fertile and positive thoughts and forces. However, it depends on the degree.

"It is an old truism that the whole science of economics is a function of scarcity. Where there is no scarcity there is no need for applying economics. Air is no item for economic principles and water only to a limited degree - in areas where there is no shortage of water - with regard to water transport, sewage, etc., while in desert areas water is an item which does call for the application of economic principles. Scarcity means that there is an upper limit to sharing of the goods of this earth. The possibilities can only be enlarged by increasing the production of the scarce goods. If this does not happen, an increased share in the material goods can only be brought about at the expense of other individuals or groups. This sober statement also limits all socio-economic possibilities. A larger share in the "social product" can only be achieved in an economy by increasing the gross national product or by changing its distribution. Obviously a combination of both will accomplish the same. To use an old example: if somebody cuts a larger slice of a pie than originally provided, the other pie eaters will have to do with smaller slices. However, if a larger pie is baked all consumers will be able to eat more. On the other hand nothing is gained if I should choose to rename  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the pie and call it  $\frac{2}{12}$ . This portion does sound more impressive but in accordance with basic arithmetic  $\frac{1}{6}$  is equal to  $\frac{2}{12}$  and  $\frac{4}{24}$  etc., etc.

"Let us apply the example of the pie to the complicated total reality. If there is a general and even rise of income in the form of wages, salaries, pensions, prices etc. in an economy without a concurrent and corresponding increase in the gross national product, no more is gained than when I refer to  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the pie as  $\frac{2}{12}$ . Only that type of income which leads the upward trend may have an advantage momentarily, but this will be more than offset by rapid and considerable increases in the other brackets. Temporary or more permanent dislocations which usually follow such developments, moreover, mostly cause irreparable damage. The mere demand for increases in income not based on any increase of real productivity can therefore never lead to a lasting and secure improvement of the socio-economic situation unless it is intended to bring about a fairer distribution, i.e. the pie is sliced in a different manner. But let us leave this appetizing picture now.

"In a sound economy all partners have a definite function to perform. Our economy, in spite of all interference and controls by the superimposed state and social forces, is based on the principle of free enterprise. Now if one of the social partners, let us say labor, is to have a larger share in the national product - which remains constant - then by necessity. another partner - the entrepreneur, in all probability - will have to do with a smaller share.

"Well, what are the entrepreneur's problems? First of all he is called upon to maintain the sound and viable position of the enterprise. It is his responsibility constantly to undertake renovations - and, whenever necessary, expansions of capital goods in order to keep abreast of technical developments and assure the competitive position of the enterprise. He is also called upon to maintain inventories or expand them whenever necessary. In the final analysis the entrepreneur must be granted a special income as an incentive, to reward him for his efforts and also to reimburse him for his special risks. The enterprising spirit, which after all can only cause an increase in the national product, is to a large extent dependent on the chances of success expressed in chances of profits. But these are not the only incentives: pride in a growing enterprise, the satisfaction of creative effort, social impulses, high idealism, the feeling of running an independent enterprise - all these are important aspects of the activity. If the curtailment of the entrepreneur's share in the national product

carries with it a corresponding curtailment of these various aspects, the enterprising spirit will of necessity decrease and the original success of the redistribution of the national product will turn into a general soci-economic decline. This is especially true if the share of the entrepreneur has already been seriously limited by taxes, social security and similar compulsory contributions. In most instances these things will not happen since in a free economy the entrepreneur will pass on those additional burdens, which one really cannot expect him to bear, to the consumer in the form of price increases - if this possibility exists. Thus the cost of social betterment for a part of the population will have to be born by the consumer in general. In an ideal case this can only lead to a state where after going through certain business cycles the other income brackets become readjusted. That would finally bring us to the original point of departure and the game can begin once more.

"Such developments would place the heaviest burden upon and discriminate most seriously against those groups whose incomes have a tendency to lag behind - the weakest social economic groups who can neither raise prices nor threaten with strikes, for example those receiving social security or retirement pensions, etc. It can well develop that the weakest groups never catch up and therefore even have to pay with their poverty for the betterment of those who are already in a more favorable position. Furthermore, such a procedure endangers competitive abilities vis-à-vis those countries which do not follow the same trends and therefore places the whole socio-economic situation in jeopardy. In the national economy of a country all factors and forces are so closely interrelated that the above-mentioned course will turn out to be most hazardous. The margin which possibly may be squeezed out of income peaks is so insignificant in most cases that it would never take care of large-scale wage increases without concurrent increases in productivity.

"But how can labor currently benefit by an increased productivity? Until this has been determined months elapse; these months can be regarded as lost. Well, there are other possibilities worth considering. For instance the distribution of premiums after determination of the annual profits, or the endowment of special retirement

funds, or employee settlements, issuance of stocks or shares in the enterprise, etc., etc. Another possibility of great social significance would be to apply increases of productivity to cause a lowering of prices. By such a move all consumers and, therefore, the whole population would benefit.

"Whichever course one choses to follow - and there are many - one fact remains: One cannot distribute any more than there is. In discussing our pie everybody sees this, but in discussing our modern economy with its complicated aspects, it becomes less clear; and yet the same principle applies. Without increases in productivity one can only increase the signs of value, but not the value per se. Reality cannot be done with by the prettiest of dreams. This principle also holds for the latest demand: the 40-hour week. Obviously, this is a good and ideal demand and it must be acknowledged that such a work schedule does afford many employees the opportunity to devote additional time to their families and cultural events - under the condition that wages for a 40-hour week shall be the same as for the 48-hour week. This, however, is only possible if a simultaneous and corresponding increase in productivity occurs, i.e., 40 hours of work will at least have to result in the same amount of goods produced as 48 hours previously. Many people consider such a move as a preliminary step to achieve full employment. This would only be the case if all necessary labor and especially skilled labor were adequately available in the unemployment reserves. But this is not the case - not even in Berlin. Even if one were to disregard the need for prior increases of productivity, we still must recognize that the additional skilled labor required is not available in many instances, aside from the fact that plant facilities and additional machinery, which hardly can meet the demand now, would first have to be provided.

"For the present our goal can only be: increase of productivity through larger investments and through improved rationalization of work processes, to be followed gradually by an improvement of the general standard of living through increase in the real income.

"Only such considerations are worthy of the term 'socio-economic policies!'"

Sample of RIAS Coverage of Bonn Parliamentary Affairs

The debate on the Bonn Conventions dominated the news and political output during the period of November 3, 4 and 5, 1952. Newscasts gave roughly 50% of their time to the Bundestag debate and related matters. The station carried the entire proceedings in the Bundestag live over short wave and FM transmitters. Beginning at 1915 hours nightly on the same three days, RIAS offered excerpts from the debate as follows:

- a) December 3 : five hours, seven minutes;
- b) December 4 : three hours, twenty minutes;
- c) December 5 : seven hours, thirteen minutes, plus  
one hour and three minutes live,  
joined with the short wave and FM  
transmitters.

The Berlin press commented that RIAS had performed a public service in making the proceedings accessible to every radio listener, saying that the broadcasts helped to give listeners an interest and sense of participation in parliamentary government. The "Rundfunkspiegel" of the German Industrial Institute commented: " Perhaps RIAS-Berlin found the best solution in offering the full debate over short wave and FM, while the middle wave carried the planned program and then, in the evening hours, carried extensive excerpts from the debate that gave a full picture."

Liberation of Prisoners Attributed to RIAS Broadcast.

On June 17, 1952, the RIAS School of the Air Department, in its special weekly half-hour program for the Soviet Zone called "Knowledge and Truth," broadcast a dramatic show under a title that may be rendered for its real meaning: "They Forgot the Human Element." The play deals with a Soviet Zone policeman and a prisoner he is escorting from one jail to another. When the policeman learns from the prisoner that the latter is not a criminal, but another victim of the Communist regime, he decides to escort the prisoner and himself to political asylum in the West.

RIAS received a letter, dated June 21, 1952, from Iren Mössinger, now a political refugee in West Berlin. In translation, the letter reads as follows:

"My dear RIAS:

On June 17, 1952, at about 15 hours, I listened to the broadcast 'They Forgot the Human Element' while I was in Frankfurt on the Oder. I had been pondering the liberation of two poor, sick people, who were suffering behind prison walls. As head of the district attorney's office, for Frankfurt on the Oder I had already returned many people to freedom, among them several West Berliners and a West German. This time I did not know how to go about <sup>it</sup> without endangering myself and my family.

The broadcast gripped me so strongly that I carried out the action and also warned two other persons of their impending arrest. At nine in the morning on June 20 I liberated the persons referred to, and at 10 had to flee myself.

When I woke up this morning I thought of 'They Forgot the Human Element,' and I was happy that for the first time in seven years I could get up with the feeling: 'From now on you can say what you think without hypocrisy or lies.'"

On July 19, Herr Mössinger was interviewed at RIAS and was able to supply details confirming the statements in his letter. The Investigating Committee of the League of Free Jurists also confirms the story.



Regularly Scheduled Programs of Primarily Political  
Content

All RIAS broadcasts are in a sense political, and any regular program may be strongly political at a given time. The following list simply offers a convenient guide to standing broadcasts carried especially for their political effect.

Newscasts:

RIAS offers 15 newscasts daily on weekdays, 14 on Sunday. They range from three to fifteen minutes in length.

The weekday news schedule:

0500	1630
0530	1930
0630	2200
0730	2400
0830	0100
1230	0200
1330	0300
	0400

The Sunday news schedule:

0500	1930
0530	2200
0630	2400
0730	0100
0830	0200
1230	0300
1730	0400

R I A S Telephone News Service

West Berliners may hear three minutes of RIAS news by dialing 253. This service, believed to have been the first of its kind in the world (it has since been adopted in Switzerland), attracts approximately 155,000 calls a month from West Berliners.

Prior to the severance of East Sector telephones from the West Berlin net (June, 1952) more than 300,000 calls a month were registered by the German Post Office in Berlin, which operates the service in co-operation with RIAS.

Besides news the service carries the weather report and the latest exchange rate of East to West marks.

The telephone news is exchanged five times daily at:

0515  
0900  
1400  
1715  
2230

### The Voice of America

The station carries three programs of the Voice of America's German Service designed specially for Berlin and the Soviet Zone. The first, at 0645 hours daily except Sunday, is a 15-minute broadcast for the morning audience. The second program, a 30-minute broadcast, is heard at 1900 hours daily. The third program, of 15 minutes duration, is broadcast at 2245, Monday through Friday, Saturday night at 0010 and Sunday night at 0010 hours.

The popularity of these programs is shown in the heavy volume of German listener mail sent direct to the Voice's New York headquarters or forwarded through RIAS.

### Special Broadcasts for the Soviet Zone

These special programs for the Soviet Zone are presented daily in various forms in 10-minute spots for segments of the radio audience and a 15-minute show broadcast at evening peak listening time for the mass audience.

These shows have been extremely useful in maintaining the morale of the people in the Soviet Zone, providing them with practical advice on how to deal with oppressive acts and decrees and unmasking Soviet agents who seek to achieve by terror what the system can never hope to accomplish by persuasion.

Following is the schedule of these special Soviet Zone shows:

0535 - 0545	For workers
0640 - 0645	Information from the Soviet Zone
0720 - 0730	For white collar workers
	(Alternating daily in the above spots is a review of West German and foreign press entitled "Glance at the Free Press")

1220 - 1230 For farmers  
1340 - 1350 For housewives  
1945 - 2000 Main Sovzone program of universal  
interest  
0110 - 0120 Repeat of highlights of above  
0210 - 0220 Repeat of highlights of above

(The major items of the Soviet Zone shows and other political broadcasts of the preceding night are repeated in a special transmission for rebroadcast by the Hof transmitter daily from 0845 to 1000 hours to compensate for that transmitter's being off the air during the evening.)

On Sundays the only Soviet Zone show is the half-hour broadcast, "Sunday Morning on the Farm," at 0700.

#### RIAS Commentaries

The regular daily news commentary is carried at 1940 hours. Staff commentators include Heinz Frentzel, specialist in foreign affairs, and Egon Bahr, RIAS's chief correspondent in Bonn.

Regular guest commentators include Helmut Meyer-Dietrich, assistant editor of "Die Morgenpost"; Anton Schöpke, Director of the Borsig works at Berlin-Tegel, who does the "Current Economics Report" every Saturday at 1350 hours; Wilhelm Gries of "Der Tag"; and Hans Herz, who frequently contributes talks on Berlin topics.

Gunter Birkenfeld's cultural-political talks are given every Saturday at 1640 hours.

#### Alfred Boerner's Commentaries

The weekly commentaries of Alfred Boerner, spokesman for the Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany, are broadcast Tuesday at 2001 hours.

#### "Zeit im Funk"

A 30-minute program of current events, broadcast daily except Sunday at 1830. It normally offers on-the-spot reports and interviews from Berlin and the Federal Republic, including material from the station's Bonn bureau. It also frequently offers first-hand reports on Soviet Sector and Soviet Zone affairs, although RIAS reporters cannot enter those areas. Ranging through politics, economics, musical and theatrical

life and just ordinary events of human interest, "Zeit im Funk" is one of the station's most popular broadcasts.

#### "Berlin Press Review"

A daily (except Monday) 15-minute review of editorial opinion in the free press of West Berlin and the controlled press of East Berlin. The broadcast is carried at 1745.

#### University Programs

Heard Tuesdays from 2315 to 2330, the "University Program" takes up German and foreign topics of special interest to university students and faculties. It pays close attention to Soviet Zone university affairs and has a large audience in the East.

The program is distinct from the "RIAS-University-of-the-Air", a half-hour broadcast carried Mondays and a 15-minute program carried Tuesdays at 2300. This offers lectures on the university level in all fields of knowledge. The lectures, which include a series of talks on the transformation of Marxian thought through Stalinist tyranny, are drawn from Germany, the United States, Denmark, Switzerland, Great Britain and other countries.

#### Youth Programs

The Youth Section (Jugendfunk) offers 10-minute broadcasts: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 0620; Tuesday and Thursday 0540; these deal directly with the current problems of youth in the Soviet Zone, and occasionally includes reportages illustrating youth activities in West Berlin and the Federal Republic; other programs, 20 minutes, the first Tuesday in a month 2120; Thursday 2145; and Friday, 1500. The dramatizations, talks and reports contrast the opportunities and freedom of Western youth with the regimentation of Eastern youth and seek to give the latter strength of resistance and a sense of community with the West.

### "The Parties Speak"

The three major democratic parties of West Berlin -- the Social Democratic Party, the Christian Democratic Union and the Free Democratic Party -- alternate in providing five-minute talks on Saturday at 1740 and Monday at 2055 hours.

### Trade Union Broadcast

This program is heard every Saturday at 1530. Three broadcasts a month are recorded, given by the German Trade Union Federation (DGB), the fourth by the German Trade Union of Salaried Employees (DAG).

### "Victims of Soviet Concentration Camps"

Weekdays, at 0840, RIAS reads the names of persons known to have died in Soviet concentration camps. The names are supplied by the Fighting Group Against Inhumanity. The lists are not legal notice of death, but names are not included until reported by at least three independent sources.

### "Guenter Neumann and His Islanders"

An extremely popular cabaret broadcast on the first Sunday of each month at 2005 hours and repeated during the week. With words and music by Guenter Neumann, postwar Germany's leading figure in this field, the "Insulaner" broadcasts continue Berlin's tradition of sharp, entertaining political satire. Now a RIAS trade mark, the broadcasts were begun during the blockade, which inspired the title of the show. Neumann adds special broadcasts for important events: an FDJ rally, Soviet Zone elections, etc.

### MSA Broadcasts

"The RIAS Answer Man," Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 1130, is sponsored by MSA. This program answers listeners' questions on any but medical and legal subjects and includes significant information on European economic progress with American aid and other political and economic topics of interest to MSA.

### "European Hour"

This program, heard every Sunday at 1801, is designed to further the sense of European community and give Soviet Zone

listeners further contact with the free nations of Europe. The broadcast offers reports and music from London, Paris, Vienna, Zürich, Stockholm, the Benelux countries, Madrid and Rome.

"And Today?"

This documentary style feature quarter-hour follows the 2200 news Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and is usually, but not always, political in content. Typical subjects were the analysis of abuses of Soviet Zone courts, the conviction of Otto Remer, explanation of the American elections, the mass evacuation of middle class elements in Hungary, as well as special reports on youth rallies, church lay assemblies, and other important events.

"Mirror of the East"

A program on developments in the Soviet Union and satellite countries broadcast Tuesday through Friday from 0010 to 0020 hours as a feature in the "truth campaign."

"For the Teachers"

A special program for teachers and parents in the Soviet Zone which is carried Monday and Thursday at 1640 (20 minutes) and Wednesday at 2300 (10 minutes).

Weekly Feature Commentary

This ten-minute program, broadcast on Sundays at 1245, is the feature commentary of the station on the outstanding developments of the week, voiced by regular commentators and dealing with subjects in their particular fields.

"The Week in Bonn"

A weekly half-hour program broadcast at 1030 on Sundays, providing a review of parliamentary affairs and containing recorded excerpts of significant developments in the Bundestag.

Report from the Berlin House of Representatives

A fortnightly half-hour program broadcast on Thursdays at 2215, providing reviews and recorded excerpts from the Berlin legislature.

"Where the Shoe Pinches"

Mayor Reuter's fortnightly quarter-hour broadcast at 1845 hours on Sundays dealing with municipal affairs of Berlin.

### The Freedom Bell

The dedication of the World Freedom Bell, on October 24, 1950, climaxing the Crusade for Freedom, was given unprecedented radio coverage through the facilities of RIAS.

Dignitaries of nearly 30 nations attended the ceremony at the Berlin Town Hall, during which addresses were delivered by Major General Maxwell D. Taylor, US Commander, Berlin; John J. McCloy, US High Commissioner for Germany; Professor Ernst Reuter, Lord Mayor of Berlin; and General Lucius D. Clay, National Chairman of the Crusade for Freedom.

A crowd estimated at nearly half a million gathered in or near the Berlin Town Hall Square for the ceremonies while millions of other listeners throughout Germany and Western Europe heard the complete dedication services via medium and short wave.

Both the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe, the independent station of the National Committee for a Free Europe, relayed the impressive event in Czechoslovak, Bulgarian, Rumanian, Hungarian and Polish to listeners behind the Iron Curtain.

In the United States, the National Broadcasting Company, the American Broadcasting Company, and the Columbia Broadcasting System relayed a shortened version of the ceremonies to some 1500 radio stations.

Because of the significance of the Bell as a symbol of the Freedom Crusade, RIAS broadcasts each evening at 1800 a brief moment of dedication. Following the tones of the Freedom Bell, listeners hear a sentence from the Freedom Pledge, which reads:

"I believe in the sacredness and dignity  
of the individual;

"I believe that all men derive the right  
to freedom equally from God;

"I pledge to resist aggression and tyranny  
wherever they appear on earth."





89058074642



b89058074642a