

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."