

Letter from the Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic (Bolz) to Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union (Zorin), September 20, 1955¹

The Government of the GDR has authorized me to confirm that agreement has been reached on the following matters in consequence of the negotiations conducted between the Government of the GDR and the Government of the USSR in Moscow between September 17 and 20, 1955:

(1) The GDR exercises control over and guards the frontiers of the GDR, the demarcation line between the GDR and the German Federal Republic, at the outer ring of greater Berlin, within Berlin, and on the lines of communication between the German Federal Republic and West Berlin situated on GDR territory.

In the control and guarding of lines of communication between the German Federal Republic and West Berlin situated on GDR territory, the GDR will insure with the appropriate authorities of the German Federal Republic, the settlement of all matters connected with rail and road traffic and the passage of shipping of the German Federal Republic and West Berlin, their citizens or inhabitants and foreign states and their citizens, except for the personnel and material of the troops of the United States, Great Britain, and France in West Berlin, which is mentioned subsequently in paragraph 2.

In accordance with the above, the functions of issuing and completing shipping documents for shipping on the internal waterways of the GDR and others will be exclusively exercised by the authorities of the GDR.

(2) The control of traffic of troops and material of the garrisons of France, England, and the United States stationed in West Berlin passing between the German Federal Republic and West Berlin, will temporarily be exercised by the command of Soviet troops in Germany, pending the conclusion of an appropriate agreement. To this end, the transportation of military personnel or of garrison material of the troops of the three Western Powers in West Berlin will be permitted on the basis of existing Four-Power decisions:

(A) On the Autobahn Berlin-Marienborn,

(B) On the Railway Line Berlin-Helmstedt, with empty rolling stock being routed back on the Berlin-Oebisfelde Railway Line.

(C) In the air corridors Berlin Hamburg, Berlin-Bueckeburg, and Berlin-Frankfurt-Main.

Statement by the American, British, and French Foreign Ministers, on the Soviet-GDR Agreements, September 28, 1955²

The Foreign Ministers of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France wish to make known their view on certain points in connection with the agreements of September 20, 1955, as reported in the press, between the Soviet Union and the regime in the Soviet zone of Germany.

¹ Soviet radio broadcast. Mr. Zorin addressed an analogous letter to Dr. Bolz.

² *Department of State Bulletin*, October 10, 1955, pp. 559-560. Issued at New York.