

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."