

BREAKUP OF THE ALLIED KOMMANDATURA

Monthly MG Report Says Soviet's "14 Points" Was the Issue Which Led Up to the Rupture of the Four-Power Control of Berlin

The official US version of the break-up of the regular operations of the Allied Kommandatura, four-power control body for Berlin, was given in the Military Governor's Monthly Report No. 36, issued in August. The statement follows.

THE ISSUE which led up to the rupture of the four-power control of Berlin on June 20 was one concerning the Soviet so-called "Fourteen Points to Ameliorate the Legal and Material Position of the Workers of Berlin." This question had been considered for six months by all levels of the Allied Kommandatura and only partial agreement had been reached.

In the meantime, without awaiting Kommandatura approval, the Soviet Military Administration had published Order No. 20, putting into effect in its sector of Berlin all of the 14 points. It was proposed in the June 16 meeting that the SMA rescind its unilateral order so that the commandants could discuss the individual points which had not previously been accepted on a quadripartite basis, in an endeavor to reach some agreement on these points.

The Soviet delegation refused to rescind its Order No. 20, unless the other delegations accepted all 14 points and agreed to their publication as a quadripartite order.

The discussion had continued until after 11 o'clock in the night of June 16, when the US commandant said that, in view of the lateness of the hour, and his heavy schedule the next day, he must ask his colleagues to excuse him. He then stated that his

and started to walk from the room, followed by his delegation. The chairman reminded his Soviet colleague that no date had been set for the next meeting and asked if he would not remain to discuss the matter; to this the Soviet deputy commandant answered in the negative.

After the Soviet delegation had left, the chairman pointed out that the meeting had broken up not because the US commandant had left, as there had often been occasions when a commandant had departed from a meeting, leaving his deputy to take over in his place, but because the Soviet delegation had withdrawn.

Subsequent to the Soviet delegation's withdrawal from the June 16 meeting, the chiefs of staff

of the Kommandatura and certain committees had occasional meetings during the remainder of the month. These however, were quite irregular. Soviet representatives often failed to appear, after agreeing to be present.

At the July 1 meeting of the chiefs of staff, who met in their capacity as quadripartite secretariat, an official statement was read by the Soviet representative to the effect that quadripartite meetings at the Kommandatura could no longer take place.

The reasons given by the Soviet chief of staff for the disruption of



One of the last meetings of the Quadripartite Government Committee of the Allied Kommandatura. The US representatives are (left to right, at the far end of the table) Dr. U. E. Biel, political section chief of the Office of Military Government, Berlin Sector; Mr. Louis Glaser, chief of the Civil Administration and Political Affairs Branch, OMGBS, and Dr. H. A. Franklin, deputy chief. The Russian delegation is at the extreme right, the English at the extreme left, and the French in the foreground.

(Army Signal Corps photo)

deputy would take his place, and left the meeting.

Subsequently, it was proposed by the French chairman that the entire matter of the 14 points be dropped from the agenda. This proposal was acceptable to all but the Soviet deputy commandant, sitting in the absence of the Soviet commandant who, a week previously, had stated that he was ill and would be unable to attend.

The Soviet deputy commandant arose, stated that, under the circumstances, the Soviet delegation would be unable to continue any discussion,

the four-power rule of Berlin were the "well known behavior" of the American commandant, "as well as the separate actions of the French, US, and British authorities in introducing currency reform in the western zones into Berlin, a city which is a part of the economic system of the Soviet Occupational Zone, have resulted in the fact that the quadripartite meeting in the Allied Kommandatura cannot take place any longer. In connection with this, the Soviet representatives will no longer participate in the quadripartite meetings of the bodies of the Allied Kommandatura in the City of Berlin."

7,000th Freight Car

A ceremony marking the delivery of the 7,000th surplus US Army Transportation Corps freight car purchased by the French Government from OFLC was held recently in Strasbourg.

The French had contracted for the freight cars late in 1946, but delivery difficulties were encountered by the Army and OFLC because the railroad cars were being used in international traffic, particularly in support of the depleted supply of rolling stock on the railroads of western Germany.

Nurses to Travel

Plans have been made to enable German nurses to take refresher and graduate courses in other countries. Two nurses will go to America through the sponsorship of the Rockefeller Foundation; two are to go to Sweden through the Swedish Nurses Association for study during the summer; and 100 have been invited by the Swiss Red Cross Nurses Association to Switzerland for six months for work, study and health rehabilitation.

High Schools Are Studied

A selected group of German high-school students at the Willingen Youth Hostel (Hesse) has devoted a week to a study of US high schools. Basic aspects of German education reform and a discussion entitled "The American High School and its Implications for Education in Germany" were presented to the group by Military Government.

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Visiting American Artists

Only gradually did the US authorities realize that there was a wealth of outstanding cultural material in America which was little known in Europe—especially in Germany—and was deserving of promotion. The New York office of the Civil Affairs Division, Department of the Army, took steps last January to raise sufficient money from private sources to finance the journeys of at least three artists.

A panel of well-known musicians and critics was appointed to select suitable artists and to negotiate with them. In all cases, the individual artists would receive no recompense for their services other than their expenses. The net surplus in German marks from each tour would be turned over to a German charity, and the net dollar income from the sale of tickets to Americans would be returned to the original expense fund—making it as nearly self-perpetuating as possible.

The generosity of the participating artists represented a real financial sacrifice. Unfortunately, the dollar

income of the concerts has been relatively small and unless more contributions can be secured it may not be possible to continue the program during the fall, despite the success of the mission thus far.

The over-all planning for the program in Germany was initiated by ICD's Theater and Music Section, and continued by the section since its transfer to the Education and Cultural Relations Division, OMGUS. Schedules were made by which the artists first appeared in Berlin and then proceeded to cities in Bavaria, Wuerttemberg-Baden, Hesse and Bremen. The theater and music offices in the field, in cooperation with the military posts in the zone, made all arrangements for performances through German agencies.

Negotiations were made by OMGUS with the theater and music officers of the Allied powers for appearances in the other zones. Performances in the French, British and Soviet Zones have been an added feature of this cultural exchange scheme for music. As a non-political field of expression, it has been a vast area of agreement, cooperation and communication.



Emmy Goering, wife of the late Nazi Reichsmarschall, Hermann Goering, at her denazification trial in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. She was found guilty and received a one-year sentence, which was suspended because she had spent 18 months in an internment hospital. Thirty per cent of her property was confiscated.
(Army Signal Corps photo)