diff-ifk: record 104-10193-10160 - Page 7 - (diff between 2025 and 2023)

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REPORT NO. CS -311/01424-72

DATE DISTR.

14 March, 1972

COUNTRY West Germany

......

the National Democratic Party to Urge Kon-participation of the Party in Baden-Wurttemberg Election

ACQ Germany, Hamburg (10 March 1972)

FIELD NO. EGG-1825

An official West German security service at the Land level.

Analogous information from other West German services should not be construed as confirmation. The sub-source is an NPD official who had access to the information.

Democratic Party (NPD) will neet on 18 March with officials of the Baden-Wuerttenberg NPD organization and attempt to persuade the Land organization not to contest the 23 April Land election. The executive committee will point out that if the NPD does not run candidates in this election, the chances for the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) to obtain a majority in the Baden-Wuerttenberg election will be enhanced. This would enable the CDU to retain its <u>Bundesrat</u> majority and improve the chances of defenting the Eastern treaties of the Secial Democratic Party/Free Democratic Party government.

- 2. The background of the executive committee's desire to avoid contesting the Raden-Wuerttemberg election is its estimate that the NPD would capture only two per cent of the vote this year compared with 9.4 per cent in the last election, a result which the executive committee is most anxious to avoid.
 - 3. Field Dissem: Sent to Bonn and Berlin.

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-314/12543-71

DIST 1 DECEMBER 1971

COUNTRY WEST GERMANY

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NOVEMBER 1971

SUMSCT

SUMMARY OF ADOLF VON THADDEN'S 3 DECEMBER SPEECH TO THE NORTH-WEST MINING ASSOCIATION

ACQ GERMANY, HAMBURG (23 NOVEMBER 1971)

FIELD NO. EGG-1721

SOURCE

AN OFFICIAL WEST GERMAN SECURITY SERVICE AT THE LAND LEVEL. ANALOGOUS INFORMATION FROM OTHER WEST GERMAN SERVICES SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS CONFIRMATION. THE SUB-SOURCE IS AN NPD OFFICIAL WHO HAD ACCESS TO A COPY OF THE DRAFT SPEECH.

1. (FIELD COMMENT: ADOLF VON THADDEN, FORMER NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF THE WEST GERMAN NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NPD), HAS BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST MINING ASSOCIATION, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON. ON 3 DECEMBER ON THE TOPIC: A EUROPEAN'S VIEW OF THE AMERICAN CURRENCY PROBLEM. SEE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL HAMBURG TELEGRAM 767, 10 NOVEMBER 1971. DESPITE VON THADDEN'S RECENT RESIGNATION FROM HIS NPD POST HE STILL PLANS TO ATTEND THE MESTING AND

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SECRET

DATE DISTR. 10 March 1971

COUNTRY

West Germany

DOI

March 1971

SUBJECT

Intention of Adolf Von Thadden to Resign As Chairman of the National Democratic Party 2JP 74

ACQ

Germany, Hamburg (8 March 1971) FIELD NO.

An official West German Security Service concerned with right and left radical organizations, from sources described as NPD officials, who have access to the information. Similar information received through other West German intelligence channels should not be construed as confirmation.

- 1. In early Narch 1971 Adolf You T h a d d e n indicated to close associates including members of the Executive Committee of the National Democratic Party of Germany (Nationaldemokratische Partot Deutschlands NPD) that he plans to resign as Chairman of the NPD in the near future. You Thaddon has not announced the date when he plans to resign but close associates believe it will be sometime during the period 1 April to 1 June 1971.
- 2. Von Thadden's decision has been prompted by his discouragement over prospects for the NPD, serious financial difficulties of the party and by severe internal bickering within the NPD Executive Cognities during the past several weeks. Von Thadden is basically more moderate than many members of the Executive Committee. Among other disagreements, Von Thadden has opposed certain aspects of the "Resistance Action" (Aktien Viderstand) in which NPD members have recently staged demonstrations which crupted into violence. Von Thadden was also personally humiliated when his sister and other relatives asked him not to attend the funeral of Von Thadden's brother-in-law, the well-known historian Percy S c h r a m n who died in Goettingen in January 1971.

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REPORT N

CS -311/02895-70

DATE DISTR.

3 April 1970

COUNTRY

West Germany

100

Mid-February 1970

SUBJECT

Analysis of the West German National Democratic Party's Election Chances

and Cohesiveness

ACG

Germany (27 February 1970)

FIELD NO.

004-059

SOURCE

A medium-level West German government official who follows the activities of the National Denocratic Party (NPD), from an NPD official who attended the party congress. The report is the NPD official's analysis of the party's situation in the wake of the congress. The information is also passed to an official West German service, from which similar information should not be construed as confirmation.

- Adolf von T h a d d e n. NPD chairman, remains firmly in control of the party following the 14-15 February 1970 NPD congress in Wertheim.
- 2. Skepticism about the future of the NPD is increasing among party leaders. The NPD is definitely planning to wage vigorous campaigns in all 1970 Land elections, but there appears to be little chance that the party will do even as well in these elections as it did in the 1969 Bundestag elections, when it failed to obtain five percent of the total vote.
- 3. At the congress, several prominent NPD leaders emphasized the need for party unity; these appeals were well received by the delegates. There are many unresolved questions and problems, however, which will continue to plague the party. For instance, the "national-conservative" concept, which was adopted in the manifesto issued by the congress, came under strong attack. One group, which includes both older and younger members, rejects the concept of the NPD as a conservative party, because they consider that this term conveys the idea that the party is an out-of-date and reactionary political group. On the other hand, the proponents of the national-conservative concept consider themselves as upholding "positive values" in the face of manifestations of disintegration. Von Thadden is the party's unifying force, and one delegate accurately summarizeds the situation by saying: "Von Thadden, by virtue of the charisma of a his speeches, succeeded in bridging the many cracks in the party." I
 - 4. Field Dissem: Embassy Bonn, USBER.

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PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

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REPORT NO. CS-311/08556-69

DATE DISTR. 26 September 1969

COUNTRY

West Germany

June 1968, 1 September 1969

SUBJECT

West German Ministry of Interior Evaluation of the Prospects of Banning the National Democratic Party

Germany (1 September 1969)

FIELD NO. OGA

A medium-level West German government official who follows the activities of the National Democratic Party and who had access to the study during his official duties. The information was extracted from the original document and is believed to be an accurate summary of its highlights.

In June 1968, the West German Ministry of the Interior prepared a basic study of the prospects of banning the West German National Democratic Party (NPD). The summary of this study given below describes the major charges which the government could bring against the NPD, the defenses the NPD could be expected to make against these charges, and the probable political results which would follow both a successful and an unsuccessful case against the NPD. According to the source, this study is still considered the basic Interior Ministry evaluation of the case against the NPD and is being studied by senior federal government and state (Land) officials. End of Summary.

(Field Conment: For several years, West German political and government leaders have debated seeking a constitutional court ban on the NPD. On 13 November 1968, Ernst Benda, West German Interior Minister, advised Chancellor Kurt Georg Kicsinger that there was sufficient evidence to warrant bringing a suit against the NPD. Kiesinger, however, opposed bringing a suit, and the sub-ject became embroiled in West German politics. On 23 April 1969, the Federal Cabinet decided not to seek a court ban of the NPD, at least until ofter the September elections. This decision was prompted by evidence that the NPD was making no membership gains and apparently was losing popular support.)

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REPORT NO. CS -311/08430-69

22 September 1969

COUNTRY

Early August 1969

SUBJECT

Miscellaneous Information on the National Democratic Party WP 2

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DATE DISTR.

ACQ

Germany, Hamburg (15 August 1969)

FIELD NO. EGG-1444

SOURCE

Member of the National Democratic Party in Schleswig-Holstein whose reliability has not yet been established. He obtained the information from two district officials of the Party.

- 1. According to a ranking official of the Kiel district of the National Democratic Party (NPD), Karl-Heinz K n i p p h a l s, the chairman of the Kiel district of the NPD, and Adolf v o n T h a d d e n, the national chairman of the NPD, are personal enemies. (Source Comment: In January 1969 Knipphals was elected to be his party district's candidate for the West German Parliament. Knipphals, a Kiel lawyer, is in his early 50's. He was severely wounded during World War II and has only one arm.)
- 2. Von Thadden is aware of, and unhappy about, the fact that Knipphals, prior to joining the NPD, participated in Easter Marches and received unfavorable publicity. Furthermore, von Thadden is concerned about Knipphals' strong and ruthless political ambitions. He has referred to Knipphals as a "second Hitler", and he welcomes and encourages the fact that there is strong opposition to Knipphals even within the Kiel district of the party. Von Thadden, for the above reasons, would very much like to see Knipphals remain on the district level and is anxious to keep him out of the West German Parliament.
- 3. The same official, who made the remarks about von Thadden and Knipphals, also stated that many wealthy industrialists contribute funds to the NPD anonymously, because they do not wish their association or sympathy with the party to become known.
- 4. The chairman of another NPD district in Schleswig-Holstein stated that, in view of the fact that each new

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CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO. CS LT-313/01123-69

DATE DISTR.

9 July 1969

COUNTRY West Germany

DOI

1 January 1969

SUBJECT

German Government Evidence against the National Democratic Party (NPD) WP2.4

ACQ

Germany, Bonn (26 March 1969)

FIELD NO.

GN-4107

SOURCE

An official West German security service.

- 1. A 77-page German-language report, describing the National Democratic Party (NPD) and presenting documentary and testimonial evidence of possibly unconstitutional aspects of the NPD, has been deposited in the files of the CIA Document and Pictorial Services Division, from which copies may be obtained upon request. The report is the shorter of two versions prepared by the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution (Bundesamt fuer Verfassungsschutz). This shorter version is said to be complete in substance and is the version which was made available to West German Cabinet members in preparation for Cabinet discussion of whether the NPD should be banned. The longer, two-volume version has not been obtained.
- 2. Appraisal of the legal validity of the evidence against the NPD was omitted from the report at the order of the Minister of the Interior, who reserved to himself an assessment of the NPD's legality. Also, pages 9 to 13--a section entitled Chief Features of the Ideology (Grundzuege der Ideologie)--was omitted from the report at the request of the Minister of the Interior. (Headquarters Comment: The evidence in the report appears to be overt and less than conclusive. The West German Cabinet decided in the spring of 1969 not to request a ban of the NPD; substantial doubt existed as to whether there were sufficient grounds to obtain a legal ban of the NPD. The emissions from the text, referred to in this paragraph, may reflect realization by the Interior Ministry of the weakness of the case against the NPD.)
 - Field Dissemination: U. S. Embassy Bonn (limited).

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REPORT NO.

CS -311/06103 -69

DATE DISTR.

July 1969

West Berlin/West Germany

March to Mid-May 1969

SUBJECT

Status Report on Problems, Activities and Plans of the West Berlin National

Democratic Party

ACO

Germany, Berlin (March - Mid-May 1969)

FIELD.NO.

EGB-24,611

SOURCE

Intercepted communications, supplemented by information fro member of the West Berlin National Democratic Party (NPD) with close contacts among members of the Berlin NPD Executive Council and a record of accurate reporting.

Summary: The Berlin NPD has been plagued by a split between the Berlin City lendership, which is loyal to the Party's national leaders, and the "Loyalists" headed by the Berlin district leaders, who opposed the dissolution of the Berlin NPD ordered by National Party Chairman Adolf von Thadden in October 1968. Court action led to the thwarting of the plan for dissolution. In an effort to keep the Berlin Party alive, in mid-March von Thadden ordered a cessation of open Party activities until after the September parliamentary elections. quently, von Thadden arranged a postponement of a scheduled Berlin Party convention until October, because of the possibility of a ban on the Berlin NPD by the Allies and the threat of trouble from the militant left. At the end of March, Berlin City NPD Chief Rudolf Kendzia resigned in an effort to promote party unity in Berlin, but he remains active behind the scenes. Since early April, the Berlin NPD leadership has followed von Thadden's guidelines. The influence of the Loyalists has been greatly reduced, and in accordance with von Thadden's instructions party activities have been circumspect. Both the Berlin and the National leadership are hoping that the MPD will obtain 25 to 35 Bandestag seats in September, which, they feel, will make the party more acceptable to right-wing voters in Berlin and enhance NPD chances during the 1971 Berlin communal elections. Berlin is planning to send volunteer workers to campaign for the NPD in West Germany, especially in North Rhine-Westphalia, the NPD stronghold. End of Summary.

1. (Field Comment: In October 1968, the West Berlin NPD had approximately 480 dues-paying members. According to a senior party official, more than 100 members have officially dropped their

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June 1968

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West German Ministry of Interior Evaluation of the Prospects of Danning the National Democratic Party

Germany (1 September 1969)

0GA-913

SOBKE:

A medium-level West German government official who follows the activities of the National Democratic Party and who had access to the study during him official duties. The information was extracted from the original document and is believed to be an accurate summary of its highlights.

Summary: In June 1968, the West German Ministry of the Interior prepared a basic study of the prospects of banning the Rest German National Democratic Party (NPD). The summary of this study given below describes the major charges which the government could bring against the NPD, the defenses the NPD could be expected to make against these charges, and the probable political results which would follow both a successful and an unsuccessful case against the NPD. According to the source, this study in still considered the basic Interior Ministry evaluation of the case against the MPD and is being studied by senior federal government and state (land) officials. End of Summary.

1. (Field Comment: For neveral years, West German political and government leaders have debated socking a constitutional court ban on the NPD. On 13 November 1968, Ernst B e n d s, West German Interior Minister, advised Chancellor Kurt Georg K i e s i n g e r that there was sufficient evidence to warrant bringing a suit against the NPD. Klesinger, however, opposed bringing a suit, and the subject became embroiled in Best German politics. On 23 April 1969, the Federal Cabinet decided not to seek a court ban of the NPD, at least until after the September elections. This decision was prompted by evidence that the NPD was making no membership gains and apparently was losing popular support.)

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COUNTRY West Germany

REPORT NO.

CS DB-312/00003-67

SUBJECT

Bfy Program to Monitor and Counter DATE DISTR. the Activities of the National Democratic Party

5 JAN 1967

NO. FAGES

REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO:

23 November 1966

DAN ACO Germany, Bonn (25 November 1966)

FIELD REPORT NO.

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qualified American official from a senior official of the West German Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution (BfV). This official is responsible for monitoring the activities of right radical organizations throughout West Germany. The information is probably true.

- 1. (Summary: The West German Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution (BfV) and its regional affiliates (LfV) have undertaken a program to monitor and counter the activities of the National Democratic Party (NPD). Included in this program are efforts to penetrate the NPD at all its levels, to monitor its membership and finances. and to counter its influence.)
- Reports For a number of years the BfV has been engaged in penotrating and monitoring the activities of right radical organizations. Since the establishment of the NPD in. ago, 1964, the BfV has made a concerted effort to penetrate it at both the national and regional levels. This effort has resulted in the recruitment of about 60 sources with access to the NPD organizations at all levels. In several cases the BfV or LfV have been able to recruit local NPD county chairmen and in six Laender have access to the minutes and files of the Land organizations. The BfV has also penetrated the national headquarters of the NPD in Hannover.
- Through its penetration of the national organization, the BfV has been able to obtain and photograph the entire menbership rolls, which currently contain about 20,000 names. The national list has been augmented by additional membership applications obtained via penetrations of the ... Land organizations. The BfV is currently in the process of tracing all of these membership applications against the master Nazi Party membership files at the American

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