

June 18, 1953

**Telegram from Cecil Lyon to John Foster Dulles,
Reporting on Developments in Berlin**

Citation:

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<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/111319>

Summary:

In a telegram following the recent uprising in East Germany, Lyon reports from Berlin that there is currently no reported action in East Berlin, and the inner city is now completely controlled by Soviet troops and police with orders that no one may enter or leave the Soviet sector.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Transcript - English

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

Control: 6596

Rec'd: June 18, 1953

4:20 p.m.

From: Berlin

To: Secretary of State

No: 1694, June 18, 7 p.m.

We have following information on Fritz Willi Karl Goettling [Göttling]: Born 14 April 1918, German National, last residence Reinickendorf, West Berlin, missing since June 16 as reported to West Berlin police. HICOG, CIC and DAD have no (repeat no) knowledge of him.

[Otto] Nuschke has been interrogated by CIC and DAD. He still wished return before he was turned over to West Berlin police this afternoon. Police say they have good case against Nuschke re disappearance his former secretary except for lone link. Details unknown.

Soviet tanks and armored cars stationed at crucial points in East Berlin. No (repeat no) action reported, all quiet. VOPO machine guns emplaced some traffic points especially crossovers to West Berlin. Inner city completely controlled by troops and police. Soviet CDT allegedly gave orders no (repeat no) one may leave or enter Soviet sector. This appears probable. Traffic at standstill.

Unconfirmed reports state strikes, work slow downs continue at Hennigsdorf Steel Plant and some other points in zone around Berlin.

No (repeat no) clear picture developments in zone at large, but have unconfirmed reports [of] unrest and strikes in Dresden, Magdeburg, Halle, Erfurt, Leipzig, Brandenburg, Torgau, Chemnitz, Zwickau and Bitterfeld. Judging by East German radio, which emphasizes quiet in Berlin, unrest outside Berlin likely, but [it is] impossible [to] evaluate extent.

Lyon