

**June 18, 1953**

**Report from Andrei Grechko and A. Tarasov in Berlin  
to Nikolai Bulganin, 1:00 p.m.**

**Citation:**

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<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/111318>

**Summary:**

Grechko and Tarasov report on the calm state of Berlin. Some attempted riots and demonstrations have occurred in other cities throughout the GDR, but have been suppressed by the Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany. Intelligence information suggests that US forces have been put on alert at this time.

**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

OPERATIONS DIVISION, MAIN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION,  
GENERAL STAFF OF THE SOVIET ARMY

Top Secret (Declassified)

To Comrade Bulganin, N.A.

I am reporting the situation in the GDR and Berlin as of 18 June 1953, 1 p.m. (Moscow time).

1. Berlin is calm.

2. There have been some attempts to organize riots and demonstrations in Svineutso [sic], Starkau, Bernau, Oranienburg (up to one third of the workers there are on strike), Nordhausen, Goerlitz, Warnemuende, Halle, Eisleben, Ettelstadt, Fuerstenwalde (up to 400 people), Zeitz, Apolda and Ettelstadt.

All attempts at riots and demonstrations have been curbed by the units of the Group [of the Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany].

3. According to military intelligence information, the U.S. 7th Army and the 12th Air Force Army were put on alert in the U.S. zone at 5.30 a.m. on June 18. The main headquarters of the NATO Armed Forces in Louveciennes (20 km to the west of Paris) were also put on alert.

The alert state for the 7th Army was cancelled and its units were ordered to return to the places of their permanent location at 8.30 a.m.

No movement of troops was observed in the British and French sectors of Berlin.

The French military police has dispersed West Berlin residents gathering at the sector border. No gatherings of demonstrators were observed in the British sector of Berlin.

4. The units of the Group [of the Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany] have been concentrated in the assigned locations. Besides maintaining order in the area of its location, every garrison has the task to make a reconnaissance up to 50 km around the location and, in case riots occur in any place, deploy sufficient forces there.

Grechko  
Tarasov

"Correctly": General of the Army Shtemenko  
18 June 1953, 2:30 p.m.