

**June 19, 1953**

**Telephonogram from V. Semenov and V. Sokolovskii  
in Berlin to V. Molotov and N. Bulganin (1), 19 June  
1953, 1:20 a.m (Moscow Time)**

**Citation:**

"Telephonogram from V. Semenov and V. Sokolovskii in Berlin to V. Molotov and N. Bulganin (1), 19 June 1953, 1:20 a.m (Moscow Time)", June 19, 1953, Wilson Center Digital Archive, AVP RF, f. 82, op. 41, por. 93, p. 280, ll. 27-28. Translated by Benjamin Aldrich-Moodie. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/111605>

**Summary:**

V. Semenov and V. Sokolovskii recognized that the state and party organs of the GDR were taking measures to restore the normal organization of work at all enterprises in East Berlin.

**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

[The following is an excerpt from a telephonogram sent by V. Semenov and V. Sokolovskii in Berlin to V. Molotov and N. Bulganin on 19 June 1953 (received in Moscow at 1:20 a.m.) reporting on the situation in East Germany on the evening of 18 June 1953.] "We are reporting on the situation in Berlin and the GDR on 18 June 1953 at 9:00 p.m. (Berlin time). In the course of the day on 18 June the liquidation of the remains of the nodes of strikes and disturbances continued in Berlin and the GDR. In the streets of Berlin, full order was restored. There were no efforts to organize demonstrations or public addresses in the streets. The larger portion of the workers who were striking yesterday returned to work. Short partial strikes affected a small number of Berlin enterprises. On average, about 50-70% of workers worked in the enterprises. This is also explained by the fact that workers living in West Berlin could not come to work because of the halting of movement across the sector border. The organs of the MfS of the GDR and our forces continued to expose the ring-leaders of yesterday's strikes. The necessary arrests were made. The state and party organs of the GDR are taking measures to restore the normal organization of work at all enterprises in East Berlin. The supply of food and indispensable goods to the populace is being achieved without interruption. In the majority of the Republic's regions, order has been restored. Short strikes took place in individual enterprises in the Rostock, Erfurt, Leipzig, Halle, and Dresden districts. The overwhelming majority of the workers who were on strike yesterday returned to work. An enemy demonstration of about one thousand people, who headed for the jail and the railway, was organized in the evening in Dresden. Troops opened fire at the demonstration and it was dispersed. Among the demonstrators, one person was killed and others were wounded. In the other districts of the Republic, it was quiet today. In a number of places, workers were observed catching the provocateurs and handing them over to the police in keeping with the GDR Government's appeal." [Source: AVP RF, f. 82, op. 41, por. 93, p. 280, ll. 27-28. Translated by Benjamin Aldrich-Moodie.]"