

X/13 BERLIN -- EXPELLEE MEETING OPENED, GDR PROTESTS REJECTED

BERLIN AUG. 31 (RFE SPECIAL/SCHLEICH)--THE TRADITIONAL ANNUAL "TAG DER DEUTSCHEN (DAY OF THE GERMANS)" OBSERVANCE, SPONSORED AND ORGANIZED BY THE WEST GERMAN FEDERATION OF EXPELLEES, WAS OPENED IN WEST BERLIN TODAY WITH A MEETING OF THE "ALL-GERMAN PARLIAMENT-IN-ADVANCE."

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSEMBLY, WEST BERLIN CITY PARLIAMENT VICE-PRESIDENT PETER LORENZ (CDU), REJECTED A PROTEST OF THE EAST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY AGAINST THE EVENT AND SAID THE GATHERING HAD BEEN CALUMNIATED BY "THOSE WHO TRAMPLE FREEDOM AND SELF-DETERMINATION UNDERFOOT." LORENZ ASSERTED THAT IT WAS A PEACEFUL MEETING WHOSE PURPOSE IT WAS TO MANIFEST THE WILL OF THE NATIONS TO SELF-DETERMINATION.

IN A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY THE DELEGATES UNANIMOUSLY VOICED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH ALL PEOPLE WHO "IN DISREGARD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND BASIC FREEDOMS WERE DRIVEN FROM THEIR HOMELANDS OR FORCED TO FLEE BY THE RULERS IN POWER THERE."

THE RESOLUTION CALLED ON ALL PEACE-LOVING NATIONS TO SUPPORT ALL EFFORTS TO PUT AN END TO VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

THE "ALL-GERMAN PARLIAMENT-IN-ADVANCE" IS COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATIONS OF THE WEST GERMAN LAENDER PARLIAMENTS AND EXPELLEE DELEGATES. THE INCLUSION OF LANDTAG DEPUTIES BELONGING TO THE RIGHTWING EXTREMIST NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NPD) WAS ONE OF THE MAIN POINTS RAISED IN THE EAST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTEST YESTERDAY AND HAS ALSO BEEN CRITICIZED BY WEST BERLIN POLITICAL AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.

(MORE) WD/LA 1705/68 N