

.....no pastors are permitted to enter the zone from West Germany. It is difficult enough to move a pastor from one parish to another within the East Zone. Church revenue was cut 30% in 1953, was ~~xxxx~~ cut additional 4% at the end of 1955. The only solicitation for contributions allowed is the collection during ~~xxxx~~ church. And money can be sent from the west zone only at the official exchange rate which reduces each mark value by 30%. East zone pastors now get far less ....1..... Their maximum salary is an average ~~3~~ \$31 a month, with new cuts in the offing. Religious education is still permitted. In Russia it is forbidden to indoctrinate any child under 18, I believe to be given any religious instruction. But here in West Germany it is still permitted, but hours for it are set so that children have to give up their free time, and pay extra in transportation. Church attendance is systematically harassed by well...1½.... synchronized rallies.....1½..... Communist notaries tour the factories to collect workers formal affidavits that they have left the church. ~~Pastors' children~~ Pastors' children are barred from university study, and higher education is ~~xxxx~~ virtually impossible for children who have not participated in the newer ritual of youth dedication, the state's secular substitute for confirmation. So far this year 1600 teachers, loyal to the church, have fled east Germany to avoid putting pressure on their pupils to attend youth ~~xxxx~~ dedication. 34 evangelical church workers are presently in jail, and in January 110 of the church's ~~xx~~ 121 railroad missions in east Germany were ordered closed. Communism is not simply a political movement. Communism is far more a religious movement than would be the activity of the Midianites, or the activity of Sisera's host, that God raised up Barak and Gideon as heroes of the faith, to oppose it. It is far more a religious movement. It is a movement which aims to wipe out Christianity to destroy all beliefs in God, to reduce everything to the dialectical materialist standards of which they have made supreme in Russia and in China. In China just very recently a great Christian preacher who had presented God's Word for years, he and his wife were sentenced to 15 years of hard labor, in prison which doubtless...3½.. In Russia only old people...3½...