

OUTGOING CIPHER

TO: 

MUN 31 17 OCT 72

TO: DURKEE INFO PETZALL YARROW HOVEY DUNNING REYMAN
FM: WALTER INFO COOK BEDE BERNARD BROWN COSTELLO LYON
NOWAK PECHACEK/BELLUS ZAHARIEFF

171437:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 236

1. BULGARIA: NOTHING.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: TODAY'S COUNTRY MEETING DISCUSSED CS FOREIGN TRADE WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF FUTURE TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH THE WEST. WHILE CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS NOW MAKING CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS TO INCREASE COMMODITY EXCHANGES WITH COUNTRIES LIKE WEST GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES, IT IS LOCKING ITSELF MORE AND MORE CLOSELY INTO THE COMECON SYSTEM AND THIS WILL CERTAINLY INHIBIT ANY SPEC-TACULAR INCREASE IN TRADE WITH THE WEST. SO FAR, PROBABLY FOR POLITICAL REASONS, IT HAS AVOIDED THE TYPES OF JOINT PRODUCTION OR MARKETING SCHEMES WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BECOME PART OF HUNGARIAN, RUMANIAN AND POLISH POLICY. IT IS POSSIBLE,

HOWEVER, THAT IF ANY EUROPEAN SECURITY ARRANGEMENT IS ATTAINED THEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ALSO WILL BE MORE AMENABLE TO THESE JOINT SCHEMES AND BE MORE BOLD IN SEEKING WESTERN CREDITS, WHICH THE MODERNIZATION OF THE CS ECONOMY DEMANDS.

3. HUNGARY: THE CURRENT ISSUE OF TARSADALMI SZEMLE CARRIES A REPORT PREPARED BY THE CC CULTURAL TEAM SEVERELY CRITICIZING THE IMPACT OF WESTERN STYLES AND VALUES IN LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM AND THE CONSEQUENT WEAKENING OF MARXISM. MANY PERIODICALS AND INDIVIDUALS ARE SINGLED OUT FOR BLAME AND A SHARP TIGHTENING OF EDITORIAL CONTROL IS URGED. EERA WILL ANALYZE THIS REPORT IN THE NEXT SITUATION REPORT.

3. POLAND: BARCIKOWSKI, PUWP AGRICULTURAL SUPERVISOR, IS IN MOSCOW "STUDYING THE SOVIET PARTY EXPERIENCE IN AGRICULTURE." WE DO NOT TAKE THIS OFFICIAL EXPLANATION FOR HIS VISIT VERY SERIOUSLY, BUT HAVE NO OTHER EXPLANATION TO OFFER.

SPECULATION IS MOUNTING AGAIN ABOUT AN AGREEMENT BEING IN THE OFFING BETWEEN THE VATICAN AND THE POLISH STATE. WE ARE TRYING TO GET A READING ON THIS FROM OUR ROME BUREAU.

4. RUMANIA: CEAUSESCU MET THE TWO DAVIS CUP TEAMS YESTERDAY. PRESENT WAS MALITA, WHO WAS BILLED AS "COUNSELLOR" TO CEAUSESCU.

(MORE)

6. OTHER: THE EAST-WEST GERMAN TRAFFIC TREATY WAS RATIFIED BY THE GDR PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY. SIGNED EARLIER THIS YEAR AND ALREADY RATIFIED BY THE WEST GERMAN PARLIAMENTARY BODIES, THE LAW REGULATES TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL BETWEEN EAST AND WEST GERMANY AND TRANSIT TO AND FROM THIRD COUNTRIES THROUGH THE TERRITORIES OF THE TWO STATES. AS A RESULT OF THE TREATY, WEST GERMANS WILL BE PERMITTED TO TRAVEL MORE FREELY IN EAST GERMANY AND THE REGULATIONS COVERING THE VISITS OF EAST GERMAN CITIZENS TO THE FRG WILL BE LIBERALIZED.

IN THIS CONTEXT ANOTHER LAW, ALSO PASSED YESTERDAY, IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE. THIS LAW DEPRIVES OF GDR CITIZENSHIP

ALL EAST GERMANS WHO HAD "VIOLATED EXISTING LAWS" OF THE GDR BY FLEEING THE COUNTRY AND FAILING TO RETURN AS OF THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR. THE LAW ALSO APPLIES TO CHILDREN OF THOSE INVOLVED, IF BORN IN THE WEST. BASICALLY, THE LAW MEANS THAT NO EAST GERMAN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS CAN BE UNDERTAKEN AS GDR CITIZENS AGAINST PEOPLE THUS COVERED, AND THEY ARE NOW FREE TO ENTER THE GDR FOR PERIODIC VISITS AS PROVIDED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRAFFIC TREATY.

STILL ANOTHER LAW PASSED YESTERDAY INVOLVES THE STRENGTHENING OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, AND THE ABOLITION OF SO-CALLED ADVISORY BODIES WITHIN THE MINISTRIES WHICH WERE BLOCKING EFFICIENT DECISION-MAKING BY THE EXECUTIVE. THIS LATTER LAW APPEARS TO STRENGTHEN THE HAND OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS VIS-A-VIS THE STATE COUNCIL LED BY WALTER ULBRICHT.

END MSG