

RADIO FREE EUROPE  
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE 1970 JUL 20 15:57 TO: C

MUN 62 20 JULY 70

TO: DURKEE INFO YARROW HOVEY DUNNING KAUFMANN REYMAN  
FM: WALTER INFO COOK BROWN KOHAK LYON

201517:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 161

1. BULGARIA: REGARDING ZHIVKOV'S VISIT TO CUBA BEGINNING NEXT SATURDAY, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN SLATED TO GO TO HAVANA ALREADY IN EARLY 1968, AND THAT THIS TRIP WAS CALLED OFF AT THE LAST MINUTE ALLEGEDLY DUE TO A SUDDEN ILLNESS. IN ACTUAL FACT, HOWEVER, IT SEEMED CLEAR THAT A TURN FOR THE WORSE IN THE ATMOSPHERICS OF CUBAN-SOVIET BLOC RELATIONS HAD BEEN THE REAL REASON.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: NOTHING

3. HUNGARY: OUR INITIAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE 1971-75 PLAN, PUBLISHED IN NEPSZABADSAG OVER THE WEEKEND, ARE RATHER FAVORABLE. THE ELEMENT OF CONTINUITY AND REALISM SEEMS STRONG, AND THERE IS A STRONG EMPHASIS ON QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENT IN ALL FIELDS. WE PLAN TO DEVOTE THE COUNTRY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY TO THIS SUBJECT AND EERA IS PREPARING A DETAILED ANALYSIS.

4. POLAND: NOTHING

5. RUMANIA: NOTHING

(MORE)

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6. OTHER: BOTH THE STEINBERG PIECE OF 18 JULY AND THE "NYT" EDITORIAL OF 20 JULY SHOW CLEARLY THAT DESPITE PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF CONFIDENCE OFFICIAL WASHINGTON HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE OSTPOLITIK. NATURALLY THERE IS NONE OF THIS AT THE DECLAMATORY LEVEL BUT THE MINIMAL TRICKLE OF NEWS FROM SCHEEL'S INTERVIEWS OVER THE WEEKEND SUPPORT SUCH A CONCLUSION. THE PRESS IN THE FRG IS PLAYING THE EVENT IN STRICTLY PARTISAN MANNER OR WITH EXTREME CAUTION. THE "SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG", SYMPATHETIC TO OSTPOLITIK, PARTICIPATED IN THE EFFORT TO PRESENT THE SCHEEL ATTEMPT TO ENLIST US ENDORSEMENT OF IT AS ENTIRELY SUCCESSFUL UNDER THE BANNER HEADLINE: "SCHEEL: COMPLETE UNANIMITY CONCERNING OSTPOLITIK WITH LONDON AND WASHINGTON." ON THE OTHER HAND THE "MUENCHNER MERKUR" STATED IN ITS HEADLINE: "WASHINGTON'S HESITATIONS REMAIN A WARNING AGAINST A RENUNCIATION OF THE BERLIN STAND". THUS THE PRESS IS EITHER DECISIVELY PARTISAN AS THE ABOVE EXAMPLES SHOW OR ELSE, IN THE CASE OF MANY RESPONSIBLE PAPERS, CAUTIOUS AND NON-COMMITTAL. NO DOUBT, AS IN THE CASE OF THE VATICAN INTERVIEW WITH BRANDT, THE COALITION WILL ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.

THE NEW INCENTIVES FOR SOVIET FARMERS IN PRICES AND WAGES WOULD SEEM TO STEM DIRECTLY FROM THE JULY 2-3 PLENUM. WE WILL HAVE THE FULL TEXTS OF THE DECREES BY TOMORROW AND CAA WILL DO AN ANALYSIS OF THEM.

ACCORDING TO REUTER, IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE JAPANESE SOCIALISTS THE ISSUE OF A COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM FOR ASIA WAS AGAIN BROUGHT UP BY THE CPSU AND WAS INSCRIBED IN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE. THUS THE SOVIETS KEEP IT ON THE BACK BURNER FOR SOME KIND OF EXPLOITATION IN THE EVENT THAT A POWER VACUUM DEVELOPS IN THE AREA AND THERE IS NO COUNTER-WEIGHT TO THE SPREAD OF CHINESE AUTHORITY. THIS WOULD ACCOUNT IN PART FOR THE TRIP OF FIRYUBIN TO DELHI AND HANOI AND THE SPREADING OF THE RUMOR THAT HE WAS THE PURVEYOR OF A NEW PEACE INITIATIVE FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA. THIS IS ANOTHER PIECE OF SOVIET DIPLOMACY BY INNUENDO WHICH COMMITS THE USSR TO NOTHING BUT TESTS THE DIPLOMATIC CURRENTS AND ENCOURAGES FRUSTRATED AND ANXIOUS GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLE TO LOOK ON THE USSR AS AN HONEST AND PEACE LOVING BROKER.

END MSG