Department of State

TELEGRAM

E. Germany

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO NSA 02,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSC 10,P 04,
RSC 01,SP 02,SS 25,USIA 12,SAL 01,IO 13,ACDA 16,SR 01,NIC 01,
SA 01,SAH 02,E 15,RSR 01,/143 W

R 231500Z AUG 68
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3009
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USAREUR FOR POLAD/HEIDELBERG
CINCEUR FOR POLAD/VAIHINGEN
USAFE FOR POLAD/WIESADEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 2124

SUBJECT: FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN EAST BERLIN REGARDING THE CZECH SITUATION

REF: BERLIN 2116

1. A MISSION OFFICER WHO VISITED EAST BERLIN ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 23RD NOTED NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY IN THAT PART OF THE CITY. IF ANYTHING, THERE APPEARED TO BE FEWER POLICE THAN NORMAL IN EVIDENCE IN THE CENTRAL PART OF EAST BERLIN. THERE WERE NO CROWDS OUTSIDE THE CZECH EMBASSY, WHICH, AT THE TIME HE DROVE BY, WAS GUARDED ONLY BY ONE POLICEMAN. THE HOUSE OF CZECHOSLOVAK

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CULTURE WAS QUITE CROWDED. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THE MISSION OFFICER WAS TOLD THAT NO CZECH NEWSPAPERS WERE AVAILABLE. HE WAS TOLD THE SAME THING AT A REGULAR NEWS KIOSK, BUT THIS MAY BE DUE TO DISRUPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN PRAGUE AND EAST BERLIN.

2. ACCORDING TO A WESTERN JOURNALIST, WHO CITES A CZECH FRIEND AS HIS SOURCE, THE CZECH EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN CONTINUES TO RECEIVE MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY FROM EAST GERMAN CITIZENS.

3. REPORTS ARE BEGINNING TO CIRCULATE IN WEST BERLIN THAT HAND PRINTED LEAFLETS APPEARED ON THE STREETS OF EAST BERLIN NEAR THE CZECH EMBASSY LATE ON THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 22. ACCORDING TO A WESTERN JOURNALIST WHO HAS SEEN A COPY OF THE LEAFLET, IT HAS THE FOLLOWING CONTENT: "FRIENDS, COMRADES! FOREIGN TANKS IN THE CSSR SERVE ONLY THE CLASS ENEMY! THINK OF THE REPUTATION OF SOCIALISM IN THE WORLD! DEMAND FINALLY ACCURATE INFORMATION. NO ONE IS TOO DUMB TO THINK FOR HIMSELF!" WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSSIBLE SOURCE OF SUCH A LEAFLET OR HOW WIDELY IT MAY HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED IN EAST BERLIN OR ELSEWHERE IN THE GDR.

DECON 8/23/69 MORRIS

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