



Department of State

*Australia*  
**TELEGRAM**

104 8

UNCLASSIFIED 335

PAGE 01 CANBER 07633 230609Z

17

ACTION EA 15

INFO USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, SA 01, SAL 01, ACDA 16,

NIC 01, RSR 01, /123 W

P R 230531Z AUG 68

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2812

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS CANBERRA 7633

STATE PASS USIA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY ON CZECH CRISIS

REF: CANBERRA 7619

1. AS CONSEQUENCE CPA EXECUTIVE DECISION PROTEST SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA (REFTEL), CPA NATIONAL PRESIDENT R. DIXON AND VICE PRESIDENT J. SENDY CALLED ON SOVIET CHARGE IN CANBERRA AUGUST 22. AT CONCLUSION SIX-HOUR MEETING DIXON TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE: "ON BEHALF CPA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE I URGED SOVIET UNION RECONSIDER POSITION OF SOVIET TROOPS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND WITHDRAW THEM. FURTHERMORE I ASKED THAT PROTEST OF CPA BE FORWARDED TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY. MR. PLUSTCHENKO (SOVIET CHARGE) SAID HE FOUND IT DIFFICULT UNDERSTAND POSITION WE HAD ADOPTED. IN HIS VIEW SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD DETERIORATED AND THERE HAD DEVELOPED REAL DANGER OF RESTORATION OF CAPITALISM, AND IF THAT HAPPENED IT COULD LEAD TO POSSIBILITY OF WORLD WAR. THEY HELD VIEW IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES BEST THING TO DO WAS TO ACT NOW RATHER THAN TO ALLOW SITUATION TO DETERIORATE STILL FURTHER. UPON THAT POINT WE DISAGREED AND I SAID THAT WE BELIEVED SOURCE

UNCLASSIFIED





*Department of State*

**TELEGRAM**

8

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 07633 230609Z

OF DIFFICULTIES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA CAME FROM POLICIES PURSUED BY NOVOTNY GOVERNMENT AND WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS TO BRING ABOUT CORRECTION OF THESE POLICIES. WE BELIEVE NEW GOVERNMENT AND LEADERSHIP OF PARTY UNDER DUBCEK WAS LEADING TO CORRECTION OF MISTAKES OF PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT."

2. AT SAME TIME DIXON PROTESTING TO SOVIET CHARGE, CPA OFFICIALS DELIVERED SIMILAR PROTESTS TO POLISH, HUNGARIAN, AND BULGARIAN CONSULAR OFFICES IN SYDNEY. THIS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PUBLICATION SPECIAL EDITION CPA NEWSPAPER "TRIBUNE" WHICH FEATURED PROTESTS AGAINST SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

3. PARALLELING ABOVE PROTESTS, TWO "PEACE" ORGANIZATIONS (PUBLICLY LABELED BY AUSTRALIAN ATTORNEY GENERAL AS COMMUNIST FRONTS) WHICH NORMALLY ENGAGE THEMSELVES FULL TIME IN ANTI-VIETNAM AND ANTI-CONSCRIPTION ACTIVITIES STRONGLY CONDEMNED SOVIET ACTIONS. ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DISARMAMENT SAID IT "CONDEMNS AND PROTESTS IN STRONGEST POSSIBLE LANGUAGE FLAGRANT AND UNPROVOKED VIOLATION OF CZECH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND SELF-DETERMINATION BY SOVIET UNION." VIETNAM ACTION COMMITTEE SAID IT "UNEQUIVOCALLY CONDEMNS BRUTAL SOVIET INVASION AND OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA."  
CROOK

UNCLASSIFIED