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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ROUTINE

Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY WEST BERLIN/USSR

Mr. Bundy

DISTR. 24 SEPTEMBER 1964

SUBJECT

INDIRECT SOVIET QUERY ABOUT A KHRUSHCHEV VISIT
TO WEST BERLIN

1. ON 20 SEPTEMBER, TWO SOVIET DIPLOMATS ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN RAISED WITH A WEST BERLIN JOURNALIST KNOWN TO BE WELL-CONNECTED IN WEST BERLIN SENAT CIRCLES THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE KHRUSHCHEV VISIT TO WEST BERLIN. THEY ASKED THE JOURNALIST TO SOUND OUT SENAT FEELING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF INVITING KHRUSHCHEV TO INCLUDE WEST BERLIN IN HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

2. COMMENT- THE SOVIETS MEANT AN INVITATION FROM THE BERLIN SENAT. MORE DIRECT CHANNELS TO THE SENAT ARE AVAILABLE TO THE SOVIETS, BUT

BUNDY-SMITH
ALEXANDER
BATOR
BELK
BRUBECK
CHASE
FORRESTAL
JESSUP
JOHNSON
KENNY
KLEIN
KOMER
MOODY
REEDY
SAUNDERS
SAYRE
SMITH, WM.

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E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5

NLJ/RAC 12-204

By 1148 NARA, Date 09-24-2013

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THEIR USE WOULD RISK A SENAT CLAIM THAT IT HAD BEEN APPROACHED OFFICIALLY. THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THE SOVIETS WERE TRYING TO EXACERBATE FURTHER BONN-BERLIN RIVALRIES AND HOPED THE QUERY WOULD RECEIVE CIRCULATION AMONG WEST GERMAN POLITICIANS. NOTABLY THOSE OF THE CDU. SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY IS THAT THE SOVIET DIPLOMATS ARE SEEKING A CONSIDERED AND INFORMAL ANSWER TO THEIR QUESTION./

3. DISTRIBUTION- STATE /LIMITED/ USCOB.

4. COMMENT. WEST BERLIN MAYOR WILLY BRANDT HAS ALREADY PUBLICLY INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH KHRUSHCHEV DURING THE LATTER'S FORTHCOMING TRIP TO WEST GERMANY./

END OF MESSAGE

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