



Department of State

Turkey  
TELEGRAM  
179 21

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO EUR 15, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,

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

SR 01, SCI 05, E 15, CU 04, EA 10, RSR 01, /159 W  
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R 221025Z AUG 68

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 178

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA UNN

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL UNN

AMCONSUL IZMIR UNN

UNCLAS ANKARA 8156

SUBJECT: TURKS PRESS COVERAGE CZECHOSLOVAKIA

PASS USIA

1. TURK PRESS BANNER HEADLINES CZECHOSLOVAKIA UNDER SOVIET OCCUPATION WITH PHOTOS, MAPS, AND STORIES UNIVERSALLY CRITICAL. DETAILED COVERAGE OF EVENTS GIVEN, I.E. CHRONOLOGY, NATO MINISTERS MEETING, UNSC MEETING CALLED, OCCUPATION PRAGUE RADIO. TURK RADIO REPORTS UNSC MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE TOO LATE FOR INCLUSION IN PRESS. PARALLEL WITH 1956 SOVIET CRUSHING OF HUNGARY FREQUENTLY MADE.

2. TURKISH LEADERS ALL POLITICAL PERSUASIONS CONDEMN ACTION IN STRONG TERMS. TLPPRESGEN AYBAR STATED "SOVIET UNION IS BEHAVING LIKE ANY OTHER GREAT POWER. SOVIET CLAIMS THAT IMPERIALIST POWERS ARE PREPARING COUNTER-REVOLUTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE FAR FROM CONVINCING, ESPECIALLY NOW WHEN CZECH PEOPLE ARE FIRMLY BEHIND THEIR LEADERS. WE FEAR SOVIET INTERVENTION WILL LEAD TO UNCONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS OF WHICH AMERICAN IMPERIALISM WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE." NUMBER OF STUDENT AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS ISSUED DECLARATIONS CONDEMNING SOVIET ACTION AND THE STUDENT LEADERS PLACED WHITE WREATH IN FRONT CZECH EMBASSY AND BLACK WREATH IN FRONT OF SOVIET EMBASSY. FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL CUT SHORT HOLIDAY AND RETURNED

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TO ANKARA EVENING AUG 21 BUT SAID TOO EARLY TO COMMENT.  
MINFINANCE BILGEHAN, WHEN ASKED WHETHER US COULD DO SVILAR  
THING TO RURKEY, STRONGLY DENIED POSSIBILITY DECLARIND  
"AMERICANS ARE PHASING OUT THEIR DEPARTURE FROM TURKEY BY  
HANDING OVER THEIR INSTALLATIONS ONE BY ONE."

3. CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET ACTION THEME EDITORIAL COMMENT  
ALL PAPERS WITH EMPHASIS THAT SOVIETS NOT "INVITED".  
INDEPENDENT YENI GAZETE HAS BEHAVED EXACTLY SAME WAY IN  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ABDIPEKCI IN MILLIYET SHARES THIS VIEW  
AND NOTES SOVIET MOVE "HAS SAVED US FROM ITS DIFFICULT POSITION  
IN VIETNAM". LEFTIST SELCUK IN CUMHURIYET TERMS ACT DESPICABLE  
AGRESSION AND BELIEVESIT WILL "ENCOURAGE" AMERICAN AGGRESSION  
IN VIETNAM. PRO-JP ADALET BELIEVES NOVOTNY WILL ESTABLISH  
SOVIET PUPPET REGIME IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, CALLS ON FREE WORLD  
TO ACT WITH WARNINGTHAT "STANDING BY AND WATCHING YOUR  
NEIGHBOR'S DISASTER IS BEGINNING OF YOUR OWN".  
BURDETT

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