INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

57	CONFIDENTIAL			
Action BTF			Control: Rec'd:	12720 MARCH 17, 1964
Info	FROM:	BONN		1:59 P.M.
SS G SP L H	ACTION:	SECSTATE 3331 BERLIN 933 LONDON 1030 PARIS 2068	Author By A	DECLASSIFIED prity E.O. 11652 SEC. 5(A) and (D. NARS, Date 4-26-7)
SAL EUR IO	DATE:	MARCH 17, 7 P.N	M.,	
DAC SCI	PARIS	ALSO FOR USRO		
P USIA	SUBJECT: TTD POLICY			
NSC INR	REF: DEPTEL 2534			
CIA NSA OSD ARMY NAVY AIR NIC RMR	EAST GERMANS. THE RB-66 INCIDENT, WHICH IS VIEWED IN			IN NATO AND MEET HAN TO ACCOMMODATE THE S VIEWED IN THE FRG, R ISSUE, WOULD NOT N THORN OF CONTENTION

2. WE THUS THINK THE MAIN QUESTION WOULD BE THAT OF THE TIMING OF A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE RELAXATION WILL BE INTERPRETED AS A SMALL MEASURE OF DETENTE, WHICH WOULD STAND IN CONTRAST TO THE CONTINUED SOVIET DETENTION OF THE RB-66 CREW. FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW A DELAY IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE ATTRACTIVE. A DELAY BEYOND THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK COULD INVOLVE THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS, HOWEVER:

A. PASS NEGOTIATIONS ARE SCHEDULED TO RESUME IN BERLIN SHORTLY AFTER EASTER AND THE FRG IS ANXIOUS TO AVOID ISSUANCE OF THE TTD ANNOUNCEMENT IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO, OR CONCURRENTLY WITH, THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

/A DELAY REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

CONFIDENTIAL

-2- 3331, MARCH 17, 7 P.M., FROM BONN

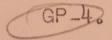
B. A DELAY PAST NEXT WEEK MIGHT PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME NATO MEMBERS TO OPEN THE ENTIRE QUESTION AGAIN AND UNDO THE AGREEMENT THAT HAS REQUIRED SO MUCH LABOR. USRO'S JUDGMENT ON THIS POINT IS NEEDED.

C. THE FRG HAS ALREADY GIVEN AN OFF-THE-RECORD PRESS BRIEFING TO SCANDINAVIAN JOURNALISTS DESCRIBING THE NEW REGULATIONS AND THE LOCAL AP REPRESENTATIVE IS AWARE OF THE STORY. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE NEWS WILL BECOME PUBLIC EVEN WITHOUT AN ANNOUNCEMENT.

D. AS TIME GOES BY THE EAST GERMANS MAY BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE RB-66 CASE, POSSIBLY TO THE EXTENT OF A SHOW TRIAL. UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES THE TTD ANNOUNCEMENT, APPLYING AS IT DOES TO EAST GERMANS RATHER THAN SOVIETS, WOULD BECOME EVEN LESS APPROPRIATE.

3. FOR THESE REASONS, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT BE ISSUED NO LATER THAN MARCH 25 UNLESS THERE ARE NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RB-66 CASE BEFORE THEN WHICH WOULD MAKE RECONSIDERATION ADVISABLE.

4. IF THE DEPARTMENT AND USRO CONCUR IN THIS RECOMMENDATION, IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE TO PLACE OUR ALLIES ON WARNING THAT US CONCURRENCE IN THE RELEASE NEXT WEEK IS SUBJECT TO RECONSIDERATION IN THE LIGHT OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RB-66 CASE.



HILLENBRAND

FP/21