

Department of State

Congo(K)
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 823

PAGE Ø1 YAOUND Ø1995 231206Z

50 ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, RSR 01, SR 01, 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, SAH 02, SAL 01,

SA 01, AID 28, /149 W

R 231115Z AUG 68 FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE: TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2338

6 ON FIDENTIAL YAOUNDE 1995

SUBUS AFRICAN REACTION TO CZECH SITUATION

REF: STATE 226081

IN PRESENTED TEXT OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATEMENT ON CZECH SITUATION TO FORMININKO'O ETOUNGOU. I ALSO MADE REFERENCE TO SENTENCE IN STATE 24692 IN WHICH AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN HAD SAID QUOTE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC HAD APPROACHED THE ALLIED STATES UNQUOTE. THIS FLAT LIE HAD NOT BEEN MADE FULLY CLEAR IN PRESS HERE. WHERE REFERENCES SUGGESTED INVITATION HAD COME FROM QUOTE CERTAINS HOMMES D'ETAT UNQUOTE.

2. ALSO PRESENTED SUMMARY OF REACTIONS OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES, TO WHICH NKO DETOUNGOURESPONDED THAT AHIDJO HAD BEEN IN NORTH UNTIL LATE YESTERDAY AND THE TWO HAD NOT YET HAD TIME TO DISCUSS SITUATION. NKO O ETOUNGOU ASSURED ME HIS REACTION AND THAT OF HIS COLLEAGUES ONE OF PROFOUND SHOCK AND OUTRAGE. NKO O ETOUNGOU SAID HE WASN'T AS SURPRISED AS SOME OTHERS BECAUSE HE HAD SERVED IN MOSCOW. YESTERDAY HE SAID HE HAD REFUSED TO RECEIVE SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRS AND HAD SHUNTED HIM TO SECRETARY GENERAL! TCHOUNGUI. NKO O ETOUNGOU SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY AHIDJO WILL MAKE STATEMENT, BUT MY GUESS IS AHIDJO WILL MAKE THAT DECISION ALONE, AND THAT HE MAY WELL REMAIN PUBLICLY SILENT.

3. NEXT FOLLOWING MESSAGE REPORTS NKO D COMMENTS ON

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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4 State Dept. Guidelines BySickm, NARA, Date 4.2606



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