

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4

By CBm/jc NARA, Date 1-2-06

PAGE 01 BERLIN 02113 211929Z

49

ACTION EUR 20

INFO IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, USUE 00,

SS 25, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, E 15,

SAH 02, SAL 01, SA 01, NIC 01, ACDA 16, SCI 05, RSR 01, /133 W

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2998

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USAREUR FOR POLAD/HEIDELBERG

CINCEUR FOR POLAD/VAIHINGEN

USAFE FOR POLAD/WIESBADEN

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ BERLIN 2113

SUBJECT: FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN BERLIN AND GDR

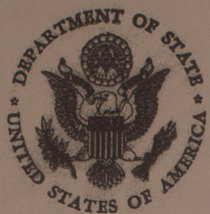
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BERLIN 2107

1. THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA OCCURED IN EAST BERLIN AND SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REFTELS.

2. MISSION PERSONNEL TRAVELLING IN EAST BERLIN DURING THE DAY NOTED THAT THE STREETS WERE SOMEWHAT MORE CROWDED THAN NORMAL BUT THAT THE ATMOSPHERE WAS QUIET. WHEREAS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 02113 211929Z

THE STRENGTH OF EAST GERMAN BORDER PATROLS ON THE EAST BERLIN WEST BERLIN BORDERS HAS BEEN DOUBLED BY THE REGIME, THERE WERE NO VISIBLE SIGNS OF INCREASED POLICE ACTIVITY IN THE CENTRAL PART OF EAST BERLIN ITSELF.

3. THE REUTERS CORRESPONDENT IN EAST BERLIN REPORTS THAT EARLY IN THE DAY THERE WAS A LARGE CROWD OF CZECHS WHO WERE BARRED FROM ACCESS TO THE CZECH EMBASSY BY EAST GERMAN GUARDS AND THAT SOME SHOVING OCCURED. SUBSEQUENTLY, SEVERAL CZECHS WERE REPORTEDLY GIVEN PERMISSION TO ENTER THE EMBASSY FOLLOWING AN ORAL PROTEST BY THE EMBASSY. THE REST WERE TOLD BY THE EAST BERLIN POLICE TO WAIT IN A BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE EMBASSY. A BRITISH MISSION OFFICER WHO WAS IN THE VICINITY LATER IN THE DAY NOTED THAT THERE WERE ONLY VERY FEW PEOPLE IN THE AREA. IN GENERAL, EAST BERLIN WAS QUITE CALM.

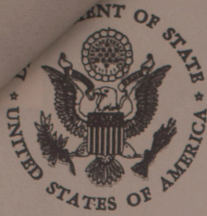
4. THE REUTERS CORRESPONDENT WAS TOLD IN THE CZECH EMBASSY THAT A PARTY PROTEST HAD BEEN DELIVERED ON THE INVASION AND THAT A GOVERNMENT PROTEST WAS TO BE DELIVERED AT 3:00 THIS AFTERNOON. WHEN HE ASKED IF THIS MEANT THAT THE DUBCEK GOVERNMENT WAS STILL FUNCTIONING, HE DID NOT GET A CLEAR REPLY.

5. USBER OFFICERS SPOKE TODAY WITH A MEMBER OF THE CZECH MILITARY MISSION IN WEST BERLIN. HE WAS VISIBLY SHAKEN BY THE INVASION AND SAID THAT IT WAS BEYOND HIS COMPREHENSION. HE EXPRESSED DISMAY THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S "ALLIES" COULD HAVE UNDERTAKEN SUCH A STEP. HE SAID TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE MISSION AND PRAGUE WERE CUT AS OF 10:00 THIS MORNING AND THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS OCCUPIED. HE STATED THAT EAST GERMAN GUARDS AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE WERE BEING EXTREMELY POLITE TO MEMBERS OF THE CZECH MILITARY MISSION AND EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN WHO PASSED THROUGH THE CHECKPOINT. HE SAID AT THE SAME TIME THE EAST GERMANS WERE NOT PERMITTING CZECHS, INCLUDING DIPLOMATS, TO TRAVEL OUT OF EAST BERLIN TOWARD CZECHOSLOVAKIA. HE EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT ULBRICHT HAD PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE DECISION TO INTERVENE MILITARILY, AND ADDED THAT NEITHER THE TASS NOR GDR STATEMENTS INDICATED WHICH LEADERS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD ASKED FOR WARSAW PACT ASSISTANCE. HE SAID VEHEMENTLY THAT NOVOTNY COULD NEVER BE RETURNED TO POWER; THIS SAME

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 03 BERLIN 02113 211929Z

OPINION WAS EXPRESSED TO THE REUTHERS MAN IN THE CZECH EMBASSY
IN EAST BERLIN.

6. A MEMBER OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN, WHO
HAS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED ACCURATE INFORMATION, TOLD A SPIEGEL
CORRESPONDENT THAT EAST GERMAN TROOPS HAD NOT ACTUALLY
ENTERED CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BUT WERE RIGHT UP ON THE BORDER.
THE SOVIET OFFICER ALSO SAID THERE WOULD DEFINITELY BE A
NEW GOVERNMENT IN PRAGUE BUT GAVE NO NAMES.

GP-3 MORRIS

COPY TO CCO.

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