



Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE MAY BE DELIVERED TO PRESIDENT SVOBODA:

QUOTE ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND MYSELF, I CONGRATULATE YOU AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATE.

FIFTY YEARS AGO, PRESIDENT WILSON AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PLAYED AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE FOUNDING OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. TODAY I ASSURE YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, OF THE CONTINUING INTEREST AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE UNITED STATES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S HISTORIC COURSE. THIS COURSE HAS BEEN MARKED BY GREAT CHALLENGE AND GREAT TRAGEDY. THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE HAVE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THEIR CAPACITY TO MEET CHALLENGE AND TRAGEDY WITH COURAGE, DETERMINATION, AND HOPE.

I AM CONFIDENT THIS SPIRIT WILL CONTINUE TO PREVAIL AMONG THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON UNQUOTE

2. WHITE HOUSE PLANS TO RELEASE TEXT OF MESSAGE TO PRESS UNLESS, UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, CZECHS PREFER NOT TO HAVE IT RELEASED.

EXEMPT. RUSK

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