



Department of State

*Norway*  
**TELEGRAM**  
44  
138

UNCLASSIFIED 747

PAGE 01 OSLO 06174 230119Z

89

ACTION EUR 20

INFO RSR 01, SS 25, GPM 04, SP 02, L 03, H 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, INR 07,  
CIA 04, NSA 02, DOD 01, SAH 02, SAL 01, SA 01, ACDA 16, SCI 05, SR 01,  
IO 13, RSC 01, /137 W

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R 221200Z AUG 68  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1904  
INFO RUEHDT/USUN NEW YORK 90  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN VIA POUCH  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI VIA POUCH  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW VIA POUCH  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM VIA POUCH

UNCLAS OSLO 6174

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: OSLO 6169

FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION KENNAN STATEMENT ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
AS CARRIED PROMINENTLY BY OSLO AFTENPOSTEN AUG 22:

QUOTE NOBODY INTERESTED IN STABILITY AND PROGRESS IN  
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY LIFE CAN CONTEMPLATE WHAT HAS  
HAPPENED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN RECENT HOURS WITHOUT DEEP  
SORROW AND ANXIETY. THE MEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ACTION  
HAVE IN MY VIEW MADE A COLOSSAL ERROR WHICH THEY THEMSELVES  
WILL ONE DAY HAVE REASON TO REGRET. THEY HAVE GROSSLY  
OFFENDED WORLD OPINION  
AND THEY HAVE REVIVED THE DYING MEMBERS  
OF THE COLD WAR, THEY HAVE SET BACK THE CAUSE OF PEACEFUL  
COEXISTENCE BY MANY YEARS. SERIOUS OBSERVERS EVERYWHERE,  
BOTH IN GOVERNMENT AND OUTSIDE, WILL BE COMPELLED TO PAY  
CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS CYNICAL AND  
IRRESPONSIBLE ACT. UNQUOTE BOVEY

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