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Info

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FM USBER BERLIN TO RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN INFO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC RUFHDN/AMEMBASSY LONDON RUFGWP/AMEMBASSY PARIS ZEN/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW RUDLSK/USNMR SHAPE PARIS SAL RUFPAG/USAREUR HEIDELBERG

EUR RUFLUE/USELMLO PARIS IO RUFLC/CINCEUR PARIS P STATE GRNC

USIA BT NSC

CONFIDENTIAL ACTION PRIORITY BONN 340 INFO PRIORITY DEPT (373) LONDON 123 PARIS 144 MOSCOW 121 USNMR SHAPE USAREUR USELMLO CINCEUR FROM BERLIN 13 SEPTEMBER 9PM

NSA DOD

INR

CIA

USNMR SHAPE FOR BURNS; USAREUR AND CINCEUR FOR POLADS.

DAC RMR

SUBJECT: REFUGEE SHOOTING INCIDENT AT WALL

REF: BERLINTEL 337 TO BONN, 370 TO DEPT.

FROM RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS SO FAR OF WALL INCIDENT BOTH BY US MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND BY WEST BERLIN POLICE, IT APPEARS THAT US PERSONNEL ON SCENE HANDLED THEMSELVES WELL AND

PAGE TWO RUFHJA 092 C ON FIDENTIAL EXERCISED GENERALLY GOOD JUDGMENT. THEY WERE HELPFUL AND RESOURCEFUL BUT NOT PROVOCATIVE IN A DANGEROUS AND DEMANDING SITUATION WHICH COULD HAVE RESULTED IN THE DEATH OR RECAPTURE BY THE VOPOS OF MICHAEL MEYER. WEST BERLIN POLICE ON THE SCENE ALSO HANDLED THEMSELVES WELL.

HAVING IN MIND THE UNHAPPY HISTORY OF THE 1962 PETER FECHTER INCIDENT AND THE SERIOUS EFFECTS IT HAD ON BERLIN PUBLIC

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.5 NLJ-S 98001 By Cb ,NARA, Date 7-6-00

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-2- 373, SEPTEMBER 13, 9 PM FROM BERLIN

OPINION, IT IS OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION THAT THE US SERVICEMEN'S ROLE IN THIS MOST RECENT AFFAIR WILL HAVE POSITIVE EFFECTS WITH RESPECT TO THE BERLINERS. FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS IN BERLIN, IT CAN BE SAID THAT THE ACTION TAKEN WAS NON-PROVOCATIVE.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT AP INCORRECTLY REPORTED THAT US SOLDIERS
HAD FIRED INTO THE SOVIET SECTOR. THIS REPORT HAS BEEN CORRECTED
THROUGH A BRIEF FACTUAL PRESS STATEMENT BY A US SPOKESMAN. GP-4.
CALHOUN
BT

ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-0 9/13/64, 4:55 PM

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