

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

Berlin

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Action

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1964 AUG 17 PM 1 38

BTF
Info

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DE RUFHOL 2244 17/1727Z
O 171651Z ZEA
FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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TO RUFHJA/USBER BERLIN
INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUFLC/CINCEUR
RUFPA/USAREUR
RUFLUE/USELMLO
BT 340

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DAC
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ACTION IMMEDIATE BERLIN 181 INFO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW 84 DEPT 614
CINCEUR USAREUR USELMLO AUGUST 17, 6 PM

USIA

SUBJECT: SHOOTING ON US PATROL IN EAST BERLIN

NSC
INR
CIA
NSA
DOD
NIC

UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT THINKS OTHERWISE, EMBASSY CONCURS WITH
DESPATCH OF PROTEST OVER SHOOTING INCIDENT FROM CHARGE TO
AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV. SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF USAREUR, WE
WOULD PREFER NOT REPEAT NOT TO DUPLICATE SUCH PROTEST BY
PARALLEL CINC MESSAGE TO GSFG.

RMR

IF DECIDED UPON, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT FOLLOWING TEXT BE
SUBMITTED TO SOVIET EMBASSY, IN CHARGE'S NAME SOONEST. SIGNED

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LETTER WOULD THEREAFTER BE POUCHED:

BEGIN TEXT

ON AUGUST 16, AT APPROXIMATELY 1845 HOURS, A US MILITARY
SEDAN WAS TURNING AROUND ON A DIRT ROAD SOUTH OF CECILIEN
STRASSE IN THE VICINITY OF STADTRANSIEDLUNG BIESDORF-NORD
IN THE SOVIET SECTOR OF BERLIN. THIS ROAD IS NOT MARKED WITH
ANY RESTRICTION SIGNS. THE OCCUPANTS OF THE US VEHICLE OB-
SERVED A SOVIET SOLDIER RUNNING TOWARDS THEIR VEHICLE. THE
SOVIET SOLDIER FIRED THREE SHOTS FROM HIS SUBMACHINE GUN AT
THE US VEHICLE FROM A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 400 METERS.
WHEN THE US VEHICLE HAD COMPLETED ITS TURN AND WAS PROCEEDING
NORTHWARDS, THE SOVIET SOLDIER FIRED A BURST OF SHOTS AT THE
US VEHICLE.

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-2- 614, AUGUST 17, 6 PM, FROM BONN

I MUST PROTEST THIS DANGEROUS AND UNJUSTIFIED ACTION BY A SOVIET SOLDIER, WHICH COULD HAVE HAD EXTREMELY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. IN THIS INSTANCE NONE OF THE OCCUPANTS OF THE US MILITARY SEDAN WAS INJURED. I AM SURE YOU MUST REALIZE, HOWEVER, THE GRAVITY WITH WHICH AMERICAN AUTHORITIES VIEW SUCH AN INCIDENT. THESE OFFICIAL AMERICAN PERSONNEL WERE EXERCISING THEIR RIGHTS OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WITHIN BERLIN. SOVIET

PAGE 3 RUFHOL 2244 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~
PERSONNEL ENJOY THE SAME RIGHTS IN THE THREE WESTERN SECTORS.
I LOOK TO YOU TO TAKE APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND TO
INSTITUTE MEASURES WILL PREVENT RECURRENCE OF SUCH INCIDENTS.
GP4. HILLENBRAND.

BT

NOTE: ADVANCE DELIVERY TO S/S-O AT 1:52 PM, 8/17/64.
PASSED WHITE HOUSE AT 2 PM, 8/17/64.

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