

Mr. ~~R~~ostowTuesday, July 2, 1968
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43

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Visit of Mr. Alexandru Birladeanu, Deputy Chairman
of the Council of Ministers of Romania

The Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Romania, Mr. Alexandru Birladeanu, is visiting the United States at my invitation, accompanied by six distinguished scientific and technical people.

After 10 days the visit can be pronounced a great success. He has met with Dean Rusk, Secretary Samuels, Secretary Weaver, Secretary Boyd, Mr. Black, Dr. Haworth, Dr. Seaborg and myself. He has visited Cape Kennedy, as well as industries and universities in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles so far. He has obviously been impressed by the openness and cordiality with which he has been received everywhere.

The visit to Cape Kennedy was sensational. Birladeanu originally regarded it as political and instructed his delegation to take no pictures and ask no questions. He wanted nothing to mar his visit. After being told to take all the pictures they wanted and all their questions were answered, he acted like a young boy with a roomful of toys. The demonstration of American technological achievement was visibly overwhelming.

The purpose of Birladeanu's visit was twofold:

- To improve trade and commercial relations
- To expand and broaden scientific and technological exchanges and contacts.

In addition, he had four specifics in mind:

- The heavy water plant
- Computers
- Synthetic rubber
- The availability of scientific research instruments, which we have often unwisely, in my view, denied them under COCOM restrictions.

On the whole, we have met his expectations. A communique will be issued jointly by Birladeanu and myself on Monday, July 8th. The attached draft has been cleared by Commerce and State Department and awaits approval from Bucharest.

New ground is broken by paragraph 5, which states:

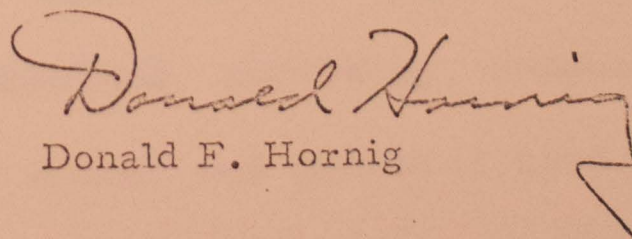
"Both Governments favor the development of relations between American and Romanian commercial enterprises subject to the laws and rules in force in each country. For instance, they favor the development of:

- a) opportunities for cooperation between industrial research and production organizations; and
- b) exchanges of industrial knowledge and technology including arrangements in the field of patent licenses and knowhow with adequate protection for industrial rights."

I consider this an advance in "bridge-building" since American industry has complained that they have had no clear signal on establishing commercial relations with Romania.

The only remaining issue is the heavy water plant which you have approved, and which Nick Katzenbach has cleared with Senator Pastore. The question is whether Birladeanu can take home word (at least confidentially) of where we will come out. Nick Katzenbach agrees that I should tell him informally that we will in all probability approve it, but that there are still details to be cleared up before we can act formally. The fact is that we are waiting only until after the COCOM meeting and after the adjournment of Congress.

In view of the warmth generated by this visit and the success of your previous meeting with Prime Minister Maurer, you may want to receive Mr. Birladeanu briefly before he departs on the evening of July 8th.


Donald F. Hornig

Attachment