



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 228

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84
ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, GPM 04, H 02,
INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SA 01, SAL 01,
SAH 02, SR 01, IO 13, NIC 01, E 15, SCI 05, OPR 02, ACDA 16, RSR 01,
/143 W

P 212307Z AUG 68
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ VIENNA 6098

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: VIENNA 6084

1. WALDHEIM CALLED ME THIS EVENING TO SAY WHEN SOVIET AMB PODZEROB MET CHANCELLOR KLAUS TODAY (VIENNA 6084) PODZEROB JUSTIFIED SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN ALMOST IDENTICAL TERMS WITH THOSE IN MEMO DOBRYNIN GAVE PRESIDENT LAST NIGHT.

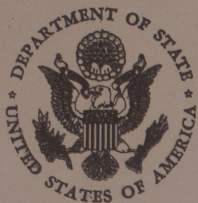
2. I ASKED WHETHER AUSTRIANS HAD PRESSED PODZEROB AS TO WHO IN CZECH GOVT HAD ASKED SOVS TO INTERVENE. WALDHEIM INDICATED AUSTRIANS HAD RAISED QUESTION BUT PODZEROB REPLIED THAT "REPORTS CZECH GOVT HAD OPPOSED INTERVENTION BY 'FIVE' WERE INVENTION OF 'PERSONALITIES THAT DO NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY ANY MORE'."

3. WALDHEIM SAID COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER CABINET MEETING THIS AFTERNOON (VIENNA INFOBRANCE P 212218Z AUG 1968) WAS DESIGNED TO REASSURE AUSTRIAN OPINION THAT GOA WAS ON THE BALL. REDEPLOYMENT OF AUSTRIAN MILITARY UNITS FROM TIROL AND SALZBURG TOWARD CZECH BORDER WOULD INVOLVE NO REPEAT NO MILITARY CONFRONTATION ON AUSTRO-CZECROFRONTIER SINCE REDEPLOYED UNITS WOULD REMAIN ABOUT THIRTY KILOMETERS FROM CZECH BORDER.

4. TO PRESERVE A CERTAIN FREEDOM OF MANEUVER, I BELIEVE GOA PROBABLY WILL CONTINUE TO TRY AVOID DIRECT CONDEMNATION

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4
State Dept. Guidelines
By sj/ebm NARA, Date 4-18-06



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OF INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BUT RISING AUSTRIAN PUBLIC
OPINION MAY WELL OBLIGE GOA SOON TO TAKE MORE DEFINITE STANCE.
MACARTHUR

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