RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE 1968 NOV 20 17:13 TO: D

MUN 60 20 NOV 68

TO: SCHNEIDER INFO KAUFMANN
FM: WALTER (COOK ACTING)

201647:

RE NYC 72 OF 19 NOVEMBER 1968. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE JOHNSON ONE SEPTEMBER SAN ANTONIO "DOGS OF WAR" ADDRESS TO THE MILK PRODUCERS AND THE PRESENT RUSK REMARKS, INSOFAR AS WHETHER THEY CONSTITUTE A "WARNING" OR NOT, IS NOT THAT THE WORD "WARNING" IMPLIES COUNTERACTION ON THE PART OF THE OTHER SIDE MORE CLEARLY HINTED AT BY RUSK, BUT THAT BOTH OFFICIAL AMERICAN SOURCES AND OFFICIAL NATO SOURCES HAVE REFERRED TO RUSK'S REMARKS AS A WARNING. THAT IS TO SAY THEY HAVE REFERRED TO HIS ON-THE-RECORD REMARKS AS A WARNING, FOR THOSE THAT CAN NEITHER BE CONFIRMED NOR DENIED CAN HARDLY BE OFFICIALLY CATEGORIZED. IN GENERAL WE DO NOT CLASSIFY BRZEZINSKI AS CAO SINCE HIS REMARKS ARE OF IMPORTANCE TO US AS HIS AND THUS BDS WOULD EMPLOY BOTH ENCOUNTER ITEM AND WASH POST ITEM AS BRZEZINSKI'S. BRZEZINSKI'S REMARKS ON DANGER TO RUMANIA ARE HIS OBSERVATIONS AND, WHILE HE TAKES SOME LIBERTY WITH SAN ANTONIO FORMULATION, NEVERTHELESS THE ARTICLE IS BRZEZINSKI'S OWN ASSESSMENT AND VALUABLE MAINLY AS SUCH. PERHAPS THE ITEM SHOULD HAVE BEEN CAO'D FOR NEW YORK CLARIFICATION BUT IT WAS FELT THAT THIS WAS UNNECESARY HERE.

WE ARE STILL STICKING AS FAR AS POSSIBLE WITH FORMULA OUTLINED IN MUN-48 OF 16 NOVEMBER, THOUGH IT APPEARS, FOR WHATEVER REASONS, RUSK INTENDED THAT RUMANIA AND ALBANIA BE BROUGHT INTO THE PICTURE. REASONABLE BUT LIMITED SPECULATION AS TO WHAT THE SOVIETS CONSIDER CONSTITUTES THE SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH AND WHAT NATO, WITHIN ITS FORMULA OF "SOVIET INTERVENTION DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AFFECTING THE SITUATION IN EUROPE OR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN" CAUSING "GRAVE CONSEQUENCES" INTENDS, MUST OF COURSE BE TREATED ON A CAO BASIS

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DEPENDING ON RESPECTABILITY OF THE JOURNAL AND THE AUTHOR. ELLIS ITEM EXCEEDS LIMITS OF PERMISSIBLE SPECULATION AS ENTIRE ITEM DWELLS ON RUMANIA AND ALBANIA AND WHAT "PRESUMABLY RUSK MEANT." SUCH AN ITEM, WHILE IT POSES MANY QUESTIONS ON WHAT RUSK-NATO REALLY INTEND, IF USED WOULD ONLY TEND TO RAISE TEMPERATURES IN EAST EUROPE. THUS ELLIS MARKED BIO, PASSAGE ON NATO PLANS IN LOUCHEIM WASH POST 16 NOVEMBER MARKED BIO AND HILL SPECIAL OF 18 NOVEMBER PARAGRAPHS DEALING WITH FINLAND AND PROBLEMS OF DEFENSE FOR NATO INVOLVING EAST EUROPE WAS ALSO BIO'D. ALSO WE HAD WITHDRAWN FROM USE PENDING CLARIFICATION A REPORT FROM UPI OF WHAT CLIFFORD ALLEGEDLY SAID ON HIS RETURN TO THE US TO THE EFFECT THAT "EXTREME CONCERN" WAS EXPRESSED BY NATO REGARDING RUMANIA AND ALBANIA. WE SHOULD LEAVE THE FORMULATIONS AS UNSPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE, AS INDEED THE DEPARTMENT HAS LEFT THEM AND PRESUMABLY INTENDS TO LEAVE THEM IN THE FUTURE, AND REMAIN AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE TO WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SAID. ANY DISCUSSION IN MORE THAN BRIEF GENERAL TERMS WILL BE REGARDED AS BIO.

END MSG