

RADIO FREE EUROPE

MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER

1972 FEB 17

16:10

TO: 

MUN 31

17 FEB 72

TO: DURKEE INFO PETZALL YARROW HOVEY DUNNING REYMAN  
FM: WALTER INFO COOK BEDE BERNARD BROWN KOHAK LYON  
NOWAK PECHACEK/BELLUS ZAHARIEFF

171537:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 39

1. BULGARIA: NOTHING.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: A CC PLENUM OPENED THIS MORNING  
WITH A REPORT BY HUSAK ON "FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION...  
OF THE 14TH CONGRESS," ACCORDING TO CETEKA.

3. HUNGARY: RADIO BUCHAREST'S ANNOUNCEMENT LAST NIGHT  
THAT KADAR WILL HEAD A PARTY-GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO  
BUCHAREST IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS (DS) CROWNS THE IMPROVE-  
MENT IN RELATIONS WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE KOMOSCIN-  
NICULESCU-MIZIL LOW POINT OF LAST SUMMER. THE ANNOUNCE-  
MENT ALSO INDICATES--IF ANY FURTHER INDICATION WERE  
NECESSARY--THAT MOSCOW DOES NOT INTEND TO MAKE AN  
ISSUE OF THE GENERAL SERB CASE. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT  
THE HUNGARIAN-RUMANIAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY WILL BE  
SIGNED DURING OR SHORTLY AFTER THE VISIT.

4. POLAND: WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES ARE ASSUMING--CORRECTLY,  
WE THINK--THAT CYRANKIEWICZ WILL STEP DOWN AS PRESIDENT  
SINCE HE EVIDENTLY IS NOT A CANDIDATE FOR RE-ELECTION TO  
THE SEJM. MORE ON THE MATEJEWSKI SENTENCING (SEE DR AND  
DS OF YESTERDAY): AT LEAST UP TO EARLY THIS MORNING  
RADIO WARSAW HAD NOT RPT NOT MADE ANY MENTION OF THE CASE

(MORE)

WHICH WAS COVERED ONLY IN THE PAP DISPATCH FOR ABROAD. IT WOULD BE STRANGE IF PAP WERE TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION FOR OUR DISPATCH. WARSAW. PERHAPS THE CASE IS MENTIONED IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS.

5. RUMANIA: RADIO BUCHAREST ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY EVENING THAT PATILINET HAS BEEN DROPPED AS A CC SECRETARY AND FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BURTICA ELECTED AS SECRETARY (DS). WE HAD ASSUMED PATILINET'S REMOVAL AS SECRETARY WHEN ON JANUARY 24 HE WAS APPOINTED MINISTER OF FORESTRY AND BUILDING MATERIALS. BURTICA WILL NOT NECESSARILY TAKE OVER SUPERVISION OF THE ARMY AND SECURITY IN THE SECRETARIAT, BUT IN OUR VIEW THIS IS PROBABLE. BURTICA--RUMORED TO BE A NEWPHEW OR BROTHER-IN-LAW OF CEAUSESCU--HAS NO READILY APPARENT QUALIFICATIONS FOR ANY JOB IN THE SECRETARIAT, PARTICULARLY IN THE MILITARY AND SECURITY AREAS. HIS EXPERIENCE IS IN YOUTH, FOREIGN AND FOREIGN TRADE AFFAIRS. IF THE RUMORS ABOUT HIS RELATIONSHIP TO CEAUSESCU ARE TRUE, IT WOULD SUGGEST THAT CEAUSESCU IS FEELING SO INSECURE AT PRESENT THAT HE PREFERENCES TO APPOINT INEXPERIENCED BUT TRUSTED RELATIONS TO KEY POSTS.

(MORE)

6. OTHER: AN EDITORIAL THAT APPEARED IN YESTERDAY'S "ZERI I POPULLIT" STRONGLY ATTACKED NIXON'S FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT. WHILE THE STYLE APPEARS TO BE SIMILAR TO MOST ALBANIAN EVALUATIONS ON US FOREIGN POLICY, A FEW STATEMENTS APPEAR TO REFLECT TIRANA'S CONTINUED UNHAPPINESS OVER THE FORTHCOMING NIXON VISIT TO PEKING. WHILE THE VISIT IS NOT MENTIONED AT ALL, THE EDITORIAL BLASTS THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP FOR ITS "COLLABORATION" WITH THE US. IN A SECTION ON US POLICIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, THE ARTICLE STATED THAT "THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE DO NOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO FALL INTO THE TRAPS OF NIXON'S DECEITFUL MANEUVERS." THIS FORMULATION COULD BE A HINT THAT SOME OTHER COUNTRY DID FALL INTO SUCH A "TRAP." IN ANOTHER PLACE THE EDITORIAL TALKS ABOUT THE "AGGRESSIVE AIMS" OF THE US IN ASIA WHICH "COULD BE SEEN NOT ONLY IN THE CONTINUATION AND EXTENSION OF ITS WAR IN INDOCHINA BUT ALSO IN THE PLANS AND PLOTS AGAINST OTHER PEOPLES OF THAT CONTINENT." WHETHER THE ALBANIANS BELIEVE THAT THE "PLANS AND PLOTS" ALSO INCLUDE THE NIXON VISIT TO PEKING IS OPEN TO INTERPRETATION.

IN THIS CONTEXT IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT IN TELEGRAMS SENT TO EDGAR SNOW'S WIDOW, BOTH CHOU AND MAO PRAISED THE LATE AUTHOR FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND AMERICAN PEOPLES.

END MSG