

RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER

1972 AUG 17

16:32

TO: 

MUN 24 17 AUG 72

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

171550:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 183

1. BULGARIA: THE FIRST BULGARIAN COMMENT ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK TRIALS HAS APPEARED IN THE FORM OF A RABOTNICHESKO DELO ARTICLE (DS). ASIDE FROM ONE OR TWO TERSE NEWS ITEMS, THE TRIALS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN COMPLETELY IGNORED.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: PROBABLY IN RESPONSE TO CONTINUING CRITICAL WESTERN ATTENTION (NOT LEAST OF ALL BY WESTERN CP'S) RUDE PRAVO HAS COME OUT WITH THE LENGTHIEST ACCOUNT THUS FAR OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INDIVIDUALS RECENTLY CONVICTED. THE ARTICLE AGAIN ATTEMPTS TO SHOW THAT THEY WERE NOT PUT ON TRIAL FOR POLITICAL BELIEFS OR MISDEEDS OF THE 1968-69 PERIOD BUT FOR MORE RECENT CONSPIRATORIAL ACTIVITY, DISCUSSING IN SOME DETAIL THE LINKS BETWEEN THE VARIOUS GROUPS, REVOLVING AROUND SILHAN'S "SMALL ACTION PROGRAM," AND THE CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE WESTERN EMIGRATION. IN THE LATTER CONNECTION IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT RUDE PRAVO EXPLICITLY MENTIONED HUEBL'S ROLE IN ARRANGING SMRKOVSKY'S INTERVIEW WITH AN ITALIAN COMMUNIST PERIODICAL LAST SEPTEMBER. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT SMRKOVSKY'S NAME HAS BEEN PUBLICLY MENTIONED IN AN ARTICLE ON THE TRIALS.

3. HUNGARY: NOTHING.

4. POLAND: NOTHING.

5. RUMANIA: NOTHING.

(MORE)

6. OTHER: RESENTMENT AND FRUSTRATION AT THE SUPPRESSION OF NATIONALITY RIGHTS IN THE USSR HAS BEEN MANIFESTED BY YET ANOTHER SOVIET NATIONALITY GROUP. THE CRIMEAN TARTARS, IN TWO MASSIVELY SIGNED PETITIONS TO BREZHNEV AND TO OTHER STATE AND PARTY LEADERS, HAVE RECORDED THEIR DISSATISFACTION AT BEING DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR HISTORIC HOMELAND AND AT CONTINUED HARRASSMENT BY THE KGB. RELEGATED EN MASSE TO THE LIMBO OF THE ALTAI FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE GERMANS DURING WORLD WAR TWO, IN ONE OF THE MOST BRUTAL OF STALINIST DEPORTATIONS, THE TARTARS WERE REHABILITATED, AFTER ALL OTHER NATIONALITIES, ONLY IN SEPTEMBER 1967. SINCE THEN, THEY HAVE AGITATED FOR TOTAL RESTORATION OF THEIR RIGHTS AND HAVE BEEN CHAMPIONED BY VARIOUS LEADING DISSIDENTS SUCH AS ALEXEI KOSTERIN AND PETR GRIGORENKO. THOUGH HAVING BEEN SUBJECTED TO ENDLESS KGB INTIMIDATION AND SUPPRESSION, THE TARTARS' TWO LATEST PETITIONS ARE TESTIMONY THAT THIS NATIONALITY MOVEMENT IS STILL STRONG AND ACTIVE.

END MSG