

RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE

TO: 

MUN 5 4 JAN 65

TO RICHARDSON INFO YARROW PAGE ROWSON WALTER E. SCHNEIDER
FM SMITH INFO OTT BURKS MATER COLLINS COOK MILLER STERNER

04/1654.

105h DEZ 4

17:24

WEST EUROPEAN PRESS IS GIVING BIG PLAY TO REPORTED SHIFT IN AMERICAN TACTICS ON THE ISSUE OF GERMAN REUNIFICATION. SUCH JOURNALS AS THE LONDON "TIMES", "LE MONDE" AND ENTIRE GERMAN PRESS ARE SOMMENTING AT LENGTH. WARSAW RADIO HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO BROADCAST ON THIS SUBJECT.

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING HERE THAT THIS SPATE OF COMMENT IS THE RESULT OF A BACKGROUND BRIEFING GIVEN IN WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS. THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS BRIEFING APPARENTLY WAS THAT THE US WAS UNWILLING TO APPROACH THE SOVIET UNION ON THE SUBJECT OF GERMAN REUNIFICATION UNLESS THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT WERE WILLING TO PUT SUCH RELATED MATTERS AS REGIONAL SECURITY PACTS, DISARMAMENT MEASURES, AND THE EASTERN FRONTIER ON THE NEGOTIATING TABLE.

OBVIOUSLY THIS MATTER IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE POLISH BROADCASTING DEPARTMENT AND ITS CREDIBILITY MAY BE AFFECTED IF IT CANNOT DEAL WITH THE MATTER IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. NORMALLY OUR PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED BY THE BROADCASTING OF BALANCED PRESS SURVEY. UNFORTUNATELY PARAGRAPH 19 (A) (2) OF THE BASIC GUIDANCE OF 20 AUGUST REQUIRES THAT SUCH SURVEYS BE PEGGED DIRECTLY TO STATEMENTS OF GOVERNMENT OR HIGH OFFICIALS.

IN THE PRESENT CASE THIS STATEMENT IS REGRETTABLY WANTING ALTHOUGH KARL GUNTHER VON HASE HAS REFERRED TO THE BRIEFING IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT. WE THEREFORE REQUEST YOUR PERMISSION TO BROADCAST SUCH A BALANCED PRESS SURVEY WITHOUT COMMENT EXCEPT FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES, WITHOUT THE PUBLIC OFFICIAL STATEMENT. THE MATTER IS OF CONSIDERABLE URGENCY SINCE THE NEWS BROKE ON FRIDAY, AND, GIVEN THE NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND, WE ARE ALREADY SOME DISTANCE BEHIND THE POLISH RADIO IN DEALING WITH THE MATTER.

END MSG