

RADIO FREE EUROPE

MUNICH  
1971 JUL 26 13:24

OUTGOING CIPHER

TO: C

MUN 53 26 JUL 71

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

261252:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 167

1. BULGARIA: NOTHING.
2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: NOTHING.
3. HUNGARY: RADIO BUDAPEST ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT PREMIER FOCK IS LEADING THE HUNGARIAN DELEGATION TO THE 25TH COMECON SESSION, WHICH IT SAID WOULD OPEN IN BUCHAREST ON TUESDAY. THIS IS THE FIRST OFFICIAL MENTION OF THE DATE OF THIS MEETING, WHICH APPARENTLY WILL BE AT THE PRIME MINISTER LEVEL, WITHOUT THE PARTY LEADERS.
4. POLAND: NOTHING.
5. RUMANIA: FROM THE FULLER AGERPRES VERSION OF CEAUSESCU'S CONSTANTA SPEECH THE FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTEREST EMERGE IN ADDITION TO THOSE MENTIONED IN SATURDAY'S DAILY REPORT:  
1) THE STRONG PLEA FOR AN END TO ATTEMPTS AT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN BALKAN AFFAIRS; 2) THE REPEATED STRESS ON THE NEED FOR ACTIVE COOPERATION AMONG THE SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED COUNTRIES AND FOR THEIR ACTIVE PRESENCE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA. BY STRESSING THAT THE POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR THIS LATTER VIEW IS THE "CLASS PRINCIPLE," CEAUSESCU WAS CLEARLY RESPONDING TO RECENT SOVIET AS WELL AS HUNGARIAN CRITICISMS. DAN MORGAN'S DISCUSSION IN THE SUNDAY WASHINGTON POST OF THE QUESTION OF CEAUSESCU'S HAVING PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE AS AN INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN PEKING AND WASHINGTON (MORGAN'S SOURCES DENY THAT HE DID) STRIKES US AS A GOOD WAY OF GETTING INTO THIS ISSUE. WE ARE NOT, HOWEVER, USING FOR BROADCAST SPECULATION ON THIS MATTER WHICH HAS APPEARED IN THE ARTICLES AVAILABLE TO US THUS FAR ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT OF MFN STATUS FOR RUMANIA.

(MORE)



6. OTHER; YESTERDAY'S "PRAVDA" CARRIED THE FIRST OFFICIAL SOVIET STATEMENT ON THE FORTHCOMING NIXON VISIT TO CHINA. SOMEWHAT CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS, "PRAVDA" DID NOT EXPLICITLY CONDEMN THE CHINESE FOR HAVING INVITED NIXON, BUT TOOK A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE. BY NOT TAKING A DEFINITE STAND ON THE ISSUE, THE SOVIETS HAVE "LEGITIMIZED" ALL INTERPRETATIONS THUS FAR APPEARING IN THE EAST EUROPEAN MEDIA. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE FULL TEXT OF THE EDITORIAL WAS REPRODUCED IN THIS MORNING'S "NEUES DEUTSCHLAND."

IN THIS CONTEXT WE NOTE THAT VICTOR LOUIS HAS RECEIVED A US VISA AND IS NOW BELIEVED TO BE SOMEWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES. IT IS HARD TO SPECULATE ON LOUIS' MOTIVES BUT, JUDGING FROM HIS EARLIER PERFORMANCE, WE WILL PROBABLY BE HEARING FROM HIM SOON. FOR THE TIME BEING WE PLAN TO COVER THE LOUIS TRIP ON THE BASIS OF WESTERN PRESS MATERIAL, AVOIDING EXTREME INTERPRETATIONS.

A NOTEWORTHY STORY IS THE SUDANESE CRACKDOWN ON COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNIST SYMPATHISERS IN THAT COUNTRY. LATEST REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SUDANESE CP HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY GOVERNMENT FORCES AND, JUDGING BY THE REGIME'S TREATMENT OF OTHER COUP LEADERS, HIS FATE APPEARS TO BE SEALED. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SOVIET REACTION TO THE SUDAN DEVELOPMENTS AND ITS EFFECT ON THE SOVIET ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT SEEMS THAT THE SOVIET MEDIA HAVE CARRIED A NUMBER OF COMMENTS SYMPATHETIC TO THE SHORT-LIVED COUP D'ETAT. ONE OF THOSE ARTICLES WAS PRINTED BY THE SOVIET FOREIGN AFFAIRS WEEKLY "NEW TIMES" WHICH IS WIDELY DISTRIBUTED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. THE SOVIETS ARE ONCE MORE FORCED TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHED REGIMES IN THAT REGION OR TO ALIENATE THEM BY VOICING OBJECTION TO THEIR TREATMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTIES. IN A SPEECH MADE IN CAIRO TWO DAYS AGO, SECRETARY OF THE SOVIET CENTRAL COMMITTEE PONOMAREV CALLED FOR CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THE ARAB SOCIALIST UNION AND THE CPSU. SHORTLY BEFORE HIS SPEECH, THE SEMI-OFFICIAL "AL AHRAH" OPENLY ACCUSED THE SUDANESE CP OF HAVING ENGINEERED THE COUP AGAINST THE ESTABLISHED REGIME IN THE SUDAN. CAA IS PREPARING A BACKGROUNDER ON THE DILEMMA FACING THE SOVIETS IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST IN LIGHT OF THE MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

OVER THE WEEKEND "AL AHRAH" AND OTHER SOURCES ACCUSED THE BULGARIAN EMBASSY IN KHARTOUM OF HAVING SHELTERED THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE SUDANESE CP KHALEK MAHJOUB AFTER THE LATTER'S ESCAPE FROM PRISON LAST MONTH. "AL AHRAH" MAINTAINS THAT WHILE AT THE EMBASSY, MAHJOUB MADE CONTACT WITH PROSPECTIVE COUP LEADERS AND WAS MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ENGINEERING THE COUP. THE BULGARIAN NEWS AGENCY HAS ISSUED AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT DENYING BULGARIAN INVOLVEMENT.

WE ARE CARRYING THE "AL AHRAH" STORY ON A CAO BASIS, AND AT THE SAME TIME ARE REPORTING ON THE BULGARIAN DENIAL.

END MSG