

1970 OCT 31 12:47

RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE

TO: C

MUN 80 31 OCT 70

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

311104:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 249

1. BULGARIA: DAN MORGAN'S ARTICLE IN YESTERDAY'S WP, TO THE EFFECT THAT TITO DECLINED ZHIVKOV'S SUGGESTION OF A MEETING BETWEEN THEM, SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE. BD WILL BROADCAST THE ARTICLE.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: NELSON/REUTER STORY FROM PRAGUE YESTERDAY (DS), ON EFFORTS BY A GROUP OF ULTRAS TO OUST HUSAK WHICH WERE DISCOVERED AS THE RESULT OF A CAR ACCIDENT, COULD HAVE SOME TRUTH IN IT BUT ALSO COULD BE ESSENTIALLY GOSSIP. STORY IS BIO, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.

3. HUNGARY: NOTHING.

4. POLAND: NOTHING.

5. RUMANIA: NOTHING.

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6. OTHER: THE ONLY MAJOR TOPIC FOR TODAY IS THE MEETING BETWEEN SCHEEL AND GROMYKO WHICH TOOK PLACE NEAR FRANKFURT YESTERDAY. FOLLOWING FOUR HOURS OF TALK WITH GROMYKO, SCHEEL HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE DURING WHICH HE ANSWERED THE CORRESPONDENTS' QUESTIONS ON THE TOPICS HE DISCUSSED. ACCORDING TO SCHEEL, THE ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION WERE OF IMPORTANCE FOR POLICY IN EUROPE AND SERVED DETENTE IN EUROPE. HE ADDED THAT NOTHING RELEVANT HAD BEEN LEFT OUT AND ANSWERING FURTHER QUESTIONS, HE MAINTAINED THAT HE INFORMED GROMYKO ON SOME OF HIS IDEAS CONCERNING THE UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS IN WARSAW.

IT EMERGES FROM SCHEEL'S REMARKS THAT HE IS TRYING TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FOUR AMBASSADORS IN BERLIN SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE NEXT WEDNESDAY IS LIKELY TO RESULT IN SOME SORT OF A DEVELOPMENT TOWARD A BERLIN SOLUTION. SCHEEL MAINTAINED THAT GROMYKO HAD GIVEN HIM THE IMPRESSION THAT THE FOUR MAJOR POWERS HAD ALREADY ATTAINED A THOROUGHLY SUITABLE BASIS OF UNDERSTANDING AS A RESULT OF TALKS IN WASHINGTON AND LONDON EARLIER THIS MONTH. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE FRAMEWORK OF A SOLUTION HAD ALREADY TAKEN SHAPE. IN FURTHER REMARKS ON THIS QUESTION SCHEEL MAINTAINED THAT A SOLUTION TO THE BERLIN ISSUE WOULD REQUIRE A WRITTEN AGREEMENT AMONG THE BIG FOUR POWERS, BUT IN CARRYING OUT SUCH AN AGREEMENT, FUNCTIONS WOULD PROBABLY BE DELEGATED TO THE GDR, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND TO THE SENATE OF WEST BERLIN.

AT ONE POINT SCHEEL'S EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT STATE OF SOVIET-WEST GERMAN RELATIONS APPEARS TO BE IN CONTRAST TO VIEWS EXPRESSED BY GROMYKO ON THE SAME SUBJECT. SCHEEL MAINTAINED THAT THE FACT THAT THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER HAD VISITED THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC SHOWED THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD CHANGED SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE MOSCOW TREATY LAST AUGUST. IN CONTRAST TO THIS, GROMYKO IN HIS DEPARTURE STATEMENT SAID THAT SOVIET RELATIONS WITH WEST GERMANY WOULD UNDERGO A MEANINGFUL CHANGE

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ONLY WHEN THE SOVIET-WEST GERMAN FRIENDSHIP TREATY HAS BEEN RATIFIED BY BONN.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH SCHEEL WAS TRYING TO CREATE AN IMPRESSION THAT HIS TALKS WITH GROMYKO WERE CARRIED OUT IN A VERY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, THE TASS COMMUNIQUE ON THE SAME TALKS RESTRICTED ITSELF TO DESCRIBING THE ATMOSPHERE AS "BUSINESSLIKE." NORMALLY SUCH A DESCRIPTION WOULD INDICATE THAT THE TWO PARTIES AGREED ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF ISSUES ONLY.

END MSG