

RADIO FREE EUROPE  
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE

1969 DEC 1

15:11

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

MUN 1 1 DEC 69

TO: DURKEE INFO YARROW HOVEY DUNNING KAUFMANN SCHNEIDER  
FM: WALTER INFO COOK

011433:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 66

1. BULGARIA: SOVIET KGB CHIEF ANDROPOV LEFT SOFIA ON 29 NOVEMBER AFTER A TWO-DAY VISIT WHICH INCLUDED TALKS WITH ZHIVKOV. WE HAVE NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND NO PARTICULAR THEORIES ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT. THEY MAY HAVE DISCUSSED THE MERCHANT FLEET SCANDAL, AMONG OTHER TOPICS.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: A REPORT FROM VIENNA BY PAUL HOFMANN, PUBLISHED IN NYT OF NOVEMBER 28, SPOTLIGHTED WHAT COULD BE THE MOST IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CZECHOSLOVAK CP FOR SOME TIME. HOFMANN REPORTS VERY BRIEFLY ON TWO ARTICLES IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS: THE FIRST IN BRATISLAVA PRAVDA BY THE SLOVAK AGIT-PROP OFFICIAL BEJDA ATTACKED LEFTISTS WHO WERE FORMERLY DISCREDITED AND WERE NOW TRYING TO MAKE A COMEBACK. THE SECOND, IN ZIVOT STRANY OF NOVEMBER 27, WAS BY THE ARCH-CONSERVATIVE GENERAL RYTIR, WHO IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT CRITICISM OF "LEFT-WING DOGMATISTS" ONLY BLUNTED THE REAL STRUGGLE AGAINST THE RIGHT WING. RYTIR'S ARGUMENT, AS QUOTED BY HOFMANN, SEEMS VERY SIMILAR TO THAT OF FRANTISEK TESAR, IN ZIVOT STRANY OF NOVEMBER 20 (THE PREVIOUS ISSUE). IN VIEW OF HUSAK'S STATED POSITION AGAINST LEFT-WING EXTREMISTS, THESE CRITICISMS SEEM TO BE AN OPEN ATTACK ON THE POSITION OF THE PARTY LEADER. THEY MAY ALSO BE A REFERENCE TO THE ARTICLES IN NEPSZABADSAG (NOVEMBER 13 THRU 16) ONE OF WHICH QUOTED A CZECH OFFICIAL AS REFERRING TO THE LEFT-WING DANGER. AT ANY RATE, THEY MAY WELL BE A SIGN OF THE GROWING CHALLENGE TO HUSAK BY THE PARTY LEFT OR AT LEAST AN ATTACK ON WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE HIS TOO MODERATE POLICY IN THIS RESPECT. ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE AT LEAST AN INDIRECT BEARING ON THE POSITION OF HUSAK IS THE SACKING ON 28 NOVEMBER OF JAN KOSCELANSKY AS CHIEF SECRETARY OF THE SLOVAK CP'S EAST SLOVAK REGIONAL COMMITTEE. (CETKA AND RADIO BRATISLAVA, 29 NOV.) KOSCELANSKY HAS BEEN A CLOSE HUSAK COLLABORATOR AND A RELATIVELY MODERATE OPPORTUNIST, AS OPPOSED TO HIS REPLACEMENT, JAN PIRCA, WHO IS AN APPARATCHIK FROM THE EARLY 1950'S AND WHO WAS ACTIVE IN THE COLLECTIVIZATION CAMPAIGN. THE SAME MEETING RELEASED "NUMEROUS COMRADES" (NUMBER UNSPECIFIED) FROM THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE AND CO-OPTED 18 NEW MEMBERS. WE STILL EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT THE SLOVAK NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION BEGINNING TODAY WILL BRING FEWER PURGES THAN TOOK PLACE RECENTLY IN ITS CZECH COUNTERPART.

(MORE)

PAGE 2 MUN 1

3. HUNGARY: KADAR'S INTERVIEW IN UNITA APPEARS INTERESTING ON BASIS OF UPI AND NYT EXCERPTS. WE EXPECT FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION FROM ROME BUREAU LATER TODAY. OUR FIRST IMPRESSION IS THAT THE UPI PIECE RATHER STRESSES THE CONSERVATIVE PART IN LEADING WITH KADAR'S REMARKS THAT THERE WILL BE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEM. NO DOUBT THIS POINT IS DESIGNED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO REASSURE THE SOVIETS. WE HAVE LISTED FOR BIO A LAJOS LEDERER ARTICLE IN THE SUNDAY OBSERVER TO THE EFFECT THAT MINDSZENTNY HAS NOW ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE CHANGES



3. HUNGARY: KADAR'S INTERVIEW IN UNITA APPEARS INTERESTING ON BASIS OF UPI AND NYT EXCERPTS. WE EXPECT FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION FROM ROME BUREAU LATER TODAY. OUR FIRST IMPRESSION IS THAT THE UPI PIECE RATHER STRESSES THE CONSERVATIVE PART IN LEADING WITH KADAR'S REMARKS THAT THERE WILL BE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEM. NO DOUBT THIS POINT IS DESIGNED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO REASSURE THE SOVIETS. WE HAVE LISTED FOR BIO A LAJOS LEDERER ARTICLE IN THE SUNDAY OBSERVER TO THE EFFECT THAT MINDSZENTY HAS NOW ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE SENATOR HARTKE'S (INDIANA) PROPOSAL EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT MINDSZENTY GO TO THE U.S. AT CHRISTMAS.

4. POLAND: FRENCH SOCIALIST DEPUTY CLAUDE DELORME HAS ASKED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO EXPLAIN WHY CERTAIN EXILES (I.E., ZAWADZKI AND ZAREMBA OF POLISH BD) WERE BARRED FROM LAST WEDNESDAY'S DISCUSSION ON FRENCH TV OF WARSAW UPRISING. BD WILL REVIEW THE TV PROGRAM, WHERE THE POLISH REGIME REPRESENTATIVES CAME OFF BADLY, WILL CRITICIZE THE POLISH REGIME FOR ITS PRESSURE FOR THE REMOVAL OF ZAWADZKI AND ZAREMBA FROM THE PANEL, AND WILL QUOTE REMARKS OF DEPUTY CLAUDE DELORME RATHER THAN COMMENT ITSELF ON THE ROLE OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

5. RUMANIA: NOTHING.

6. OTHER: RADIO WARSAW AND TASS ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING THAT A MEETING OF THE PARTY AND STATE LEADERSHIPS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND SIX EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WILL TAKE PLACE IN MOSCOW AT THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER. RADIO BUDAPEST IN ITS OWN VERSION OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT MAINTAINED THAT "IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER IT WILL BE HELD THIS OR NEXT WEEK THE MEETING WILL UNQUESTIONABLY BE CONSIDERED AS A MOST IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL EVENT." ALTHOUGH TWO WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES, REUTER AND UPI, REPORTED THAT THE MEETING MIGHT START TUESDAY, THE RADIO BUDAPEST REPORT MAKES IT QUESTIONABLE IF THE ACTUAL DATE HAS BEEN DECIDED. RADIO WARSAW MAINTAINED THAT THE MEETING WILL BE DEVOTED "TO AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON TOPICAL INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS." THIS VAGUE FORMULATION SUGGESTS THAT BESIDE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN WEST GERMANY, WHICH IS BELIEVED TO BE THE PRIMARY TOPIC OF THE CONFERENCE, OTHER INTERNATIONAL ISSUES MAY ALSO BE DEBATED.

(MORE)

AFTER TWELVE DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE SOVIET UNION AND WEST GERMANY CONCLUDED AN AGREEMENT ON SOVIET DELIVERIES OF NATURAL GAS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. ACCORDING TO THE SPOKESMAN OF THE WEST GERMAN CONTRACTING FIRM, RUHRGAS AG, THE SOVIET UNION WILL START SUPPLYING THE FRG WITH SIBERIAN NATURAL GAS IN 1973. DURING THAT YEAR 500 MILLION CUBIC METERS WILL BE DELIVERED BY THE SOVIET UNION AND THE QUANTITY OF THE DELIVERIES WILL BE INCREASED BY THE SAME AMOUNT ANNUALLY UNTIL IT REACHES THREE BILLION CUBIC METERS IN 1978. THE 20 YEAR AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AFTER TWELVE DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED IN ESSEN, WEST GERMANY. THE RUSSIANS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PAYMENT IN PART FOR THE GAS IN LARGE DIAMETER STEEL PIPES. THE NEW PIPE LINE WILL BE LAID DOWN THROUGH CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND WILL REACH WEST GERMANY WITHOUT CROSSING GDR TERRITORY. THIS LATTER ASPECT IS EXPECTED TO CAUSE SOME ANNOYANCE TO THE ULBRICHT REGIME WHICH IS BY NO MEANS PLEASED BY THE SOVIET-WEST GERMAN AGREEMENT. THIS TOPIC IS DEALT WITH IN MORE DETAIL IN TODAY'S GUIDANCE NOTE.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THE ALBANIAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS ARE NOW BEGINNING TO BE AVAILABLE HERE. DURING THE WEEKEND THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALBANIAN REGIME WAS CELEBRATED BOTH IN TIRANA AND IN PEKING. THE ALBANIAN SPEECHES REFLECT THE USUAL HARD-LINE APPROACH TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION AND THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP OF THE CPSU. PEKING ALSO USED THIS OCCASION TO RENEW ITS POLEMICS WITH THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP AND TO REMIND ITS OWN PEOPLE OF THE ALLEGED DANGER OF A SOVIET ATTACK. FROM MOSCOW WE SEE FURTHER ATTEMPTS BY THE SOVIET SIDE TO SEEK RECONCILIATION WITH THE ALBANIANS, AS IN ARTICLES LAST WEEK IN "PRAUDA" AND THE WEEKLY "NEW TIMES." SUNDAY'S "IZVESTIA" ALSO EXPRESSED THE SOVIET UNION'S INTEREST IN NORMALIZING ITS ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE TIRANA REGIME. WHILE THE PURPOSE OF THE SOVIET APPROACHES IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR, IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT THE ALBANIAN LEADERSHIP IS PRESENTLY NOT INCLINED TO COME TO TERMS WITH MOSCOW AND THEREBY ENDANGER ITS RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE. SEE TODAY'S GUIDANCE NOTE ON THE REVERBERATIONS OF THE ALBANIAN ANNIVERSARY.

END MSG