

RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER

1971 FEB 5

15:01

TO: _____

MUN 17 05 FEB 71

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

051431:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 29

1. BULGARIA: NOTHING.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: REGARDING YESTERDAY'S CC PLENUM WHICH SET A MAY 25 DATE FOR THE (SECOND) 14TH PARTY CONGRESS AND ANNOUNCED SOME CHANGES IN THE PRESIDUM, THE HAJEK-NIZNANSKY PAPER ISSUED HERE LAST NIGHT (DS) EXPRESSES OUR ANALYTICAL THINKING AND GENERAL LINE OF PROGRAMMING COVERAGE. IN OUR VIEW THE POLITICAL BALANCE IN THE PRESIDUM HAS NOT BEEN SHIFTED IN ANY CLEAR OR DRAMATIC WAY BY THE REPLACEMENT OF PILLER WITH INDRA. (HOFFMAN DOES NOT HAVE A VOTE.) HOWEVER, INDRA IS A MORE FORCEFUL AND DYNAMIC HARDLINER THAN PILLER. AT THIS POINT IT IS DIFFICULT TO BE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE IMPLIED STATEMENT IN HUSAK'S SPEECH THAT THE CONGRESS WILL MARK THE END OF THE STERILE PREOCCUPATION WITH THE PAST AND THE BEGINNING OF A POSITIVE POLICY FOR THE FUTURE.

3. HUNGARY: KOMOCSIN, CURRENTLY VISITING YUGOSLAVIA, WAS RECEIVED BY TITO YESTERDAY, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT THEY DISCUSSED A POSSIBLE UPCOMING MEETING BETWEEN THE HUNGARIAN AND YUGOSLAV PARTY LEADERS.

4. POLAND: AFP REPORTS SOURCES IN WARSAW AS SAYING THAT THE PLENUM WILL TAKE PLACE ON FEBRUARY 6 AND 7. THIS IS THE ONLY HARD DATE THAT HAS BEEN MENTIONED IN THE LAST FEW DAYS. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY AS WE CONSIDER THE NEW REGIME'S COMMITMENT TO KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED ALMOST MAKES IT MANDATORY TO ANNOUNCE THE PLENUM IN ADVANCE.

IN PRAGUE BILAK SAW POLISH AMBASSADOR JANIUREK ON THE OCCASION OF HIS DEPARTURE. JANIUREK HAS BEEN MENTIONED IN WESTERN REPORTS AS A STRONG CANDIDATE FOR THE NEW JOB (TO BE CREATED) OF REGIME SPOKESMAN, PROMISED BY GIEREK. HE IS A LOYAL FOLLOWER FROM KATOWICE. LOGA-SOWINSKI HAS ALSO BEEN MENTIONED AS A LIKELY CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF ENVOY TO PRAGUE.

TRYBUNA OPOLSKA, PARTY ORGAN OF THE OPOLE VOIVODSHIP, PRINTS A LETTER IN ITS JANUARY 31 EDITION PURPORTING TO COME FROM A GERMAN ETHNIC IN THE AREA SAYING THAT HE HAS RECEIVED OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION THAT HE COULD LEAVE FOR WEST GERMANY. THE WRITER WAS SAYING THAT HE HAD NOW DECIDED HE WANTED TO STAY IN POLAND. TRYBUNA OPOLSKA WENT TO GREAT PAINS TO ASSURE THE WRITER -- AND ANYBODY ELSE -- THAT NO ONE WOULD BE SENT TO WEST GERMANY AGAINST HIS WILL!

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- MORE -

HERETOFORE, THE POLISH PRESS HAS MAINTAINED A COMPLETE SILENCE ON THE ISSUE OF "REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES."

5. RUMANIA: COUNTRY MEETING REVIEWED THE SITUATION IN AGRICULTURE WHICH, FOLLOWING THE BAD YEARS OF 1968 AND 1969, IN 1970 WAS DISASTROUS--LARGELY BUT NOT ONLY DUE TO THE SPRING FLOODS. THE PRESS ON JANUARY 30 PUBLISHED AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE ON 1970 PLAN (UNDER) FULFILLMENT: PRODUCTION WAS 34 PER CENT BELOW PLAN FOR WHEAT AND RICE, 28 PER CENT FOR MAIZE, 33 1/2 PER CENT FOR SUGAR BEETS, 54 PER CENT FOR POTATOES, 32 PER CENT FOR GRAPES AND FRUIT AND 44 PER CENT IN VEGETABLES. EXCEPT FOR PIGS, LIVESTOCK INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER THE PLAN. AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS MONTH RUMANIAN OFFICIALS WERE TRAVELING AROUND THE COUNTRY HOLDING MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION. CEAUSESCU SPOKE AT A CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURALISTS IN AILOMITA COUNTY ON FEBRUARY 1. THE NEXT RUMANIAN SR WILL DEAL IN DETAIL WITH THE ABOVE. OUR GENERAL IMPRESSION IS THAT IN SPITE OF MEASURES WHICH THE REGIME IS TAKING TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION--SOME RATIONAL (INCREASED INVESTMENT), SOME DEPRESSINGLY BUREAUCRATIC (MERGER OF THE FOOD MINISTRY WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE)--THE PROSPECTS FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE ARE BLEAK INDEED.

6. OTHER: STOPH'S OFFER YESTERDAY TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT FOR WEST BERLIN WITH THE WEST BERLIN SENATE IS A COMPLETELY TRANSPARENT EFFORT TO FORCE BONN'S RECOGNITION OF THE GDR'S POSITION THAT WEST BERLIN IS AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ENTITY, AND TO IGNORE AND UNDERMINE THE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE THREE WESTERN POWERS FOR WEST BERLIN. BONN'S INITIAL RESPONSE, BY GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN VON WECHMAR, WAS SURPRISINGLY MILD. SEE SCHLEICH AND DEWITT SPECIALS SENT DS. CAA WILL ISSUE A PAPER TODAY ON STOPH'S REMARKS.

- MORE -

YUGOSLAVIA APPEARS TO BE ENGAGED IN A SUDDEN SPURT OF PARTY AND GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY WITH OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES. POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER JEDRYCHOWSKI RECEIVED YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR MALESKI YESTERDAY AND THE CROATIAN PREMIER RECEIVED THE BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO BELGRADE, PETKOV. KOMOCSIN WAS RECEIVED BY TITO AND A SOVIET PARTY DELEGATION IS IN THE COUNTRY TOURING THE REPUBLICS AND MEETING WITH REPUBLICAN PARTY OFFICIALS. MORE STRIKING IS THE RECEPTION OF YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW MICUNOVIC BY BREZHNEV. IF HE WERE PREPARING THE RETURN VISIT BY YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER TEPAVAC WHICH WILL SOON TAKE PLACE HE SHOULD HAVE SEEN GROMYKO. PERHAPS, AS HRZIC POINTS OUT, BREZHNEV MAY NOW BE PLANNING A VISIT TO BELGRADE WHICH WAS RUMORED IN 1969. THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUDDEN COURTSHIP CAN ONLY BE GUESSED AT. IT MIGHT BE SPECULATED THAT MOSCOW IS ATTEMPTING TO STILL YUGOSLAV CRITICISM OF THE USSR OR IMPROVE ITS IMAGE AS A PEACELOVING STATE WITH THE THIRD WORLD BEFORE THE 24TH CPSU CONGRESS. PROBABLY MORE TO THE POINT IS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO CURRY FAVOR AND INCREASE THEIR INFLUENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA AS THE END OF TITO'S REGIME APPROACHES.

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AFP CARRIES THE INFORMATION FROM RELIABLE SOURCES THAT A CPSU-CC PLENUM WILL BE HELD SHORTLY DEVOTED TO ECONOMIC MATTERS. THIS IS PROBABLY TRUE AS THE CPSU MUST PRESENT THE NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR A DISCUSSION OF ABOUT 4-6 WEEKS BEFORE IT IS ADOPTED AT THE PARTY CONGRESS WHICH MEETS ON 30 MARCH.

END MSG