

NYC67 18 NOV 1960

TO MCNEILL CY HAZELHOFF

FM BROWN CY ALEXANDER

EYES ONLY

UPON RECEIPT OF YOUR MUN 65 OF NOV 17 RECEIVED HERE NOV 18 (MORNING), I NOT ONLY DISCUSSED WHOLE SITUATION WITH PEROUTKA BUT ALSO SHOWED HIM YR MUN 65. I TOLD HIM THAT HE WELL KNEW FROM HIS AND MY MANY CONVERSATIONS OVER THE PAST WEEKS THAT I PERSONALLY HAD FOLLOWED THIS MATTER VERY CLOSELY AND HAD USED MY BEST EFFORTS TO BRING THE PARTIES TOGETHER ON A BASIS OF REASONABLE COMPROMISES SO THAT THEY COULD GET BACK TO WORK IN PEACE. I ALSO STATED THAT WHAT WAS REQUESTED NOW WAS THREE OR FOUR MONTHS OF HONEST REPEAT HONEST EFFORT BY ALL CONCERNED TO SEE IF MR. KOSTRBA AND THE DESK COULD WORK TOGETHER.

I TOLD PEROUTKA THAT I TOOK A VERY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE LATEST PETITION, AND THAT IF THESE PEOPLE PERSISTED IN CONTINUING TO REHASH AND STIR UP THIS WHOLE THING THAT THE ONLY RESULT THEY WOULD ACCOMPLISH WOULD BE TO FORCE MTO INTO SUPPORTING THE DISCHARGE OF THESE PEOPLE.

AFTER A LENGTHY DISCUSSION I SUGGESTED TO PEROUTKA THAT HE TELEPHONE ELIAS AND ADVISE HIM OF ALL THE FOREGOING AND THAT THE MUNICH GROUP WAS RUNNING OUT OF ROPE ON THIS ONE AND THEY BETTER START ACTING LIKE REASONABLE ADULTS.

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PEROUTKA TALKED TO ELIAS AND BELLUS ALONG THE ABOVE LINES AND TOLD THEM: (1) THAT HE FELT NO ACTION LIKE THE PETITION SHOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN AT THIS TIME, (2) THAT PEACE IS NOW NECESSARY. ELIAS AND BELLUS PROMISED HIM THAT PEACE WOULD PREVAIL AND HE COULD RELY ON IT. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PEOPLE WILL FOLLOW ELIAS ON THIS.

AFTER THAT PHONE CONVERSATION I TOLD PEROUTKA THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IF HE COULD GET THE PETITION WITHDRAWN. SO HE CALLED AGAIN AND DISCUSSED THIS POSSIBILITY WITH ELIAS WHO FINALLY SAID TO HIM:

QUOTE MR. PEROUTKA, DO YOU PERSONALLY REQUEST THAT IT BE WITHDRAWN UNQUOTE WHEN PEROUTKA ANSWERED YES, ELIAS SAID HE FELT HE COULD OBTAIN ITS WITHDRAWAL ON THE BASIS OF PEROUTKA'S REQUEST. ELIAS DID SAY THAT IT BEING LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON IT MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME TO CONTACT THE PEOPLE AND ACCOMPLISH THIS. IT DOES APPEAR HOPEFUL THOUGH THAT THIS CAN BE DONE.

I FEEL THE FOREGOING OFFERS A BASIS FOR GETTING THIS WHOLE BUSINESS BACK INTO PROPER PERSPECTIVE WITHOUT LOSING THE BEST TALENTS ON THE DESK.

JUST TRIED TO REACH ERIK ON PHONE IN LISBON TO ADVISE HIM OF THIS BUT DISCOVERED HE HAD RETURNED TO MUNICH BECAUSE OF SITUATION. TALKED TO ARCHIE IN HIS STEAD AND AM NOW TRYING TO REACH ERIK OR YOU BY PHONE TO DISCUSS THE ABOVE.

EVEN AS I WRITE THIS I LEARN THAT BELLUS HAS PHONED PEROUTKA JUST NOW TO ASK WHAT FORM THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PETITION SHOULD TAKE. SO IT SEEMS PROGRESS IS BEING MADE
END MSG