

OUTGOING CIPHERTO:

1972 FEB 28

16:37

MUN 52 28 FEB 72

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

281624:

RFE DAILY REPORT NO. 48

1. BULGARIA: COUNTRY MEETING REVIEWED THE RECENT CC PLENEM AND FULL TEXT OF VELCHEV'S SPEECH ON TU'S WHICH DOES NOT APPEAR AS PROMISING AS IT DID IN SUMMARY (CF. DR NO. 45 OF 24 FEBRUARY). IN FACT, THE TU'S ARE TO REMAIN PRIMARILY TRANSMISSION BELTS OF THE PARTY, WITH INCREASED RIGHTS ONLY IN THE SPHERE OF PLANT SAFETY. VELCHEV DID HOWEVER MAKE A SIGNIFICANT REVELATION WHEN HE SAID THAT "SOME COMRADES" HAVE DIFFERING VIEWS ON TU RIGHTS. ACCORDING TO VELCHEV THESE VIEWS OF "SOME COMRADES" FALL INTO THREE CATEGORIES: (1) THE TU'S HAVE ENOUGH FUNCTIONS, RIGHTS AND DUTIES AND ONE SHOULD ASK THEM TO PUT THESE INTO PRACTICE; (2) TU'S HAVE THE NECESSARY FUNCTIONS, BUT THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE ALL THE RIGHTS AND PRECONDITIONS IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THEIR FUNCTIONS MOST EFFICIENTLY; AND (3) THE RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS OF TU'S IN SOME RESPECTS SHOULD BE INCREASED EVEN MORE THAN IN THE DRAFT PREPARED FOR THE TU CONGRESS WHICH BEGINS MARCH 7. IT IS QUITE UNUSUAL FOR A PARTY SPOKESMAN IN ANY COMMUNIST COUNTRY TO ADMIT THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENT CURRENTS OF OPINION AMONG PARTY MEMBERS. THE BD'S APPROACH IN PROGRAMMING WILL BE TO ENCOURAGE VIGOROUS UTILIZATION BY THE TU'S OF THOSE RIGHTS WHICH THEY DO HAVE, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT BULGARIAN TU'S REMAIN ESSENTIALLY PARTY TRANSMISSION BELTS.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: NOTHING.

3. HUNGARY: FOR ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS ON THE HUNGARIAN-RUMANIAN VISIT AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY BEYOND SATURDAY'S DR, SEE KING PAPER WHICH WILL BE TELEXED TO YOU LATER TODAY.

- MORE -

THE SOVIET WEEKLY NOVOGE VREMYA (NEW TIMES) OF 18 FEBRUARY HAS A LONG ARTICLE ON "MODERN REVISIONISM" BY A DOCTOR A. SOBOLEV. SOME OF THE ARTICLE'S REMARKS ARE CLEARLY AIMED AT RUMANIA, BUT WE ARE PARTICULARLY STRUCK--IN VIEW OF THE 3 FEBRUARY PRAVDA ARTICLE ON HUNGARY--BY ONE QUOTE WHICH SEEMS DIRECTED AGAINST HUNGARY. SOBOLEV WRITES, FOLLOWING A WARNING ABOUT WHERE MODERN REVISIONISM LED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THAT "RECENT FACTS PROVE IRREFUTABLY THAT ANY VARIETY OF SPONTANEOUS INTERPLAY BETWEEN ECONOMIC FORCES LEADS TO GRAVE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES." YUGOSLAVIA MAY ALSO BE IMPLIED, BUT IN OUR VIEW HUNGARY IS PRIMARILY THE COUNTRY SOBOLEV HAD IN MIND.

4. POLAND: RADIO WARSAW YESTERDAY BROADCAST AN UNUSUALLY CULT-OF-PERSONALITY-LIKE COMMENTARY ON GIEREK. IT REFERRED TO THE "LEGEND AROUND GIEREK" AND COMPARED HIM TO CEASAR, NAPOLEON AND DE GAULLE, ADDING THAT GIEREK IS "RUTHLESS TOWARD ANY KIND OF FLATTERERS." THIS SURPASSES ANYTHING WE HAVE SEEN IN POLAND SINCE BIERUT'S FALL. GIEREK, BY THE WAY, CRITICIZED GOMULKA'S PERSONALITY CULT IN HIS JANUARY 1971 MARATHON TALK WITH DOCKWORKERS IN SZCZECIN.

AFP/WARSAW REPORTS TODAY THAT ON 26 FEBRUARY THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ABOLISHED THE LAW, INTRODUCED IN THE STALIN ERA, WHICH REQUIRED THE CHURCH TO PROVIDE REGULAR INVENTORIES OF CHURCH PROPERTY. THE SOURCE OF MUCH CHICANERY UP TO NOW, THE LAW WAS, ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS, TO BE ABOLISHED ON JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR. THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO DO SO HAD RAISED THE QUESTION IN OUR MINDS OF REGIME BACKSLIDING ON THE CHURCH-STATE RAPPROCHEMENT. IF CONFIRMED, THE ABOLITION OF THIS LAW WILL BE SEEN AS A VERY POSITIVE STEP.

5. RUMANIA: NOTHING.

6. OTHER: SEE DGS ON CONCLUSION OF NIXON CHINA VISIT.

END MSG