

MUN 59 17 NOV 60
TO BROWN
FM MCNEILL PENN INFO HAZELHOFF

1622

HERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF ARTICLE SIGNED ZO WHICH APPEARED IN PARTY DAILY RUDE PRAVO IN PRAGUE ON 14 NOVEMBER UNDER HEADLINE, "THE REVOLTING FREE-EUROPEANS";
QUOTE

AMERICAN BOSSES OF THE SO-CALLED "FREE EUROPE COMMITTEE" HAVE FOR A CONSIDERABLE TIME BEEN IMPLEMENTING VARIOUS ECONOMIC MEASURES, REORGANIZATIONS, FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE PROSPERITY OF THEIR MUNICH ENTERPRISE - RADIO FREE EUROPE. THE PRESIDENT OF SAID COMMITTEE, ALEXANDER, HIMSELF MADE NUMEROUS INSPECTION TOURS IN MUNICH, AND THE RESULTS ARE SHOWING ALREADY: "REVOLTING FREE-EUROPEANS".

IT ALL STARTED WITH THE REORGANIZATION HAVING AFFECTED ALSO THE SO-CALLED CZECHOSLOVAK DESK OF THE STATION. CHIEF FIRT WAS DEPOSED TO AN "ADVISER" POST SO AS TO BE ABLE TO COMPLETE A FEW MORE YEARS NECESSARY FOR HIS PENSION, AND KVETKO WAS SENT TO "EXILE" - TO NEW YORK. THE AMERICAN BOSSES HAD A BIG HEADACHE - WHOM TO PUT IN THESE CHIEFS' STEAD, WHOM TO PRESENT AS LIBERATORS TO POSSIBLE LISTENERS.

PEROUTKA NO LONGER FEELS LIKE GOING TO MUNICH WHILE ZENKL, 76, HAS ENOUGH TROUBLE WITH PASTING TOGETHER THE DYING "COUNCIL OF FREE CZECHOSLOVAKIA".

IN AUGUST 1960, AFTER LENGTHY CONSULTATIONS WITH THE BONN AUTHORITIES, THE AMERICANS ESTABLISHED A NEW LEADERSHIP OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK DESK, AND AT LAST ISSUED APPOINTING DECREES TO THE CHOSEN ONES. THE NEW CHIEF BECAME A CERTAIN KOSTRBA ABOUT WHOM NOTHING IS KNOWN EXCEPT THAT HE HAS WON CONFIDENCE OF THE BONN REVANCHISTS BY HIS WORK IN RADIO STUTTGART. APPOINTED AS HIS ASSISTANT WAS SAMUEL BELLUS FROM NEW YORK, AND OTHER APPOINTING DECREES WERE ISSUED TO A CERTAIN ELIAS AND GRANSO (SIC!). THESE ARE TO BE THE LEADERS OF DOLLAR-PAID "LIBERATORS".
(MORE)

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AT A MEETING OF EMPLOYEES, THE NEW CHIEF KOSTRBA PLEDGED HIS LOYALTY TO THE AMERICANS, AND PROMISED TO APPLY THE PRINCIPLE "I AM MASTER, YOU ARE MASTER". HE DECLARED THAT HE WOULD SET RIGHT THE BAD REPUTATION THE CZECHOSLOVAK DESK HAS HAD AMONG THE AMERICANS EVER SINCE THE RADIO EMPLOYEES BEGAN DESERTING TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

DURING HIS TWO-MONTHS-OLD DIRECTORSHIP, KOSTRBA ALREADY DID APPLY THE FIRST PART OF HIS "PRINCIPLE". HIS "I AM THE MASTER" HAS ALREADY AFFECTED THE EDITORS BELAK AND STEFANEK WHO ARE ABOUT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO NEW YORK - TO "EXILE" - AS THE RFE SLANG CALLS THE NEW YORK OFFICE. KOSTRBA BEGAN ASSIGNING ADDITIONAL, BETTER-PAID POSTS TO HIS FAITHFUL. THE "YOU ARE THE MASTER" -- THE SECOND PART OF KOSTRBA'S CREED -- MEANS THAT KOSTRBA IS PERSECUTING ALL WHO DARE TO QUESTION THE ABILITY OF THE AMERICAN DIRECTORS OF THE RADIO STATION. AN ATMOSPHERE OF MISTRUST IS BEING CREATED IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK SECTION. PROTEST ACTIONS ARE BEING STAGED -- THE FREE EUROPEANS ARE REVOLTING. A GROUP OF 25 SLOVAK EMPLOYEES SUBMITTED TO THE AMERICAN MANAGEMENT A MEMORANDUM EXP

D A VOTE OF NON-CONFIDENCE IN KOSTRBA,
AND DEMANDING THE TRANSFER OF EDITORS BELAK AND STEFANEK TO BE
ANNULLED AND THE DECREE APPOINTING GRANSK (SIC!) ASSISTANT CHIEF
WITHDRAWN. A PETITION IN SUPPORT OF THE "EXILES" HAS BEEN SIGNED
BY 11 CZECH EDITORS. THE NEWLY APPOINTED ASSISTANT CHIEF, ELIAS,
TOO, HAS AFFIXED HIS SIGNATURE AND, MOREOVER, REFUSED TO PERFORM
HIS FUNCTION.

THE REVOLT OF THE FREE EUROPEANS RECEIVED SUPPORT IN A NOTICE
ISSUED BY EDITOR SUDA IN HIS CAPACITY AS A FUNCTIONARY IN THE
SO-CALLED "WORKS COUNCIL".
(MORE)

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EMPLOYEES BACKING RFE MANAGEMENT AND PERSUADING TRADE
UNION OFFICIALS TO DROP PROTEST ACTIONS -- SAYS THE NOTICE --
ARE NOTIFIED THAT UNDER WEST GERMAN LAW THEY ARE LIABLE TO IMPRI-
SONMENT. THE "FREE-EUROPEANS" FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK SECTION ARE
EXPRESSING TO THE AMERICAN MANAGEMENT THAT "THEY ARE DEFENDING
THEIR BASIC RIGHTS AND THEIR INTEREST".

EDITOR GRAF-TABOR, ONE OF THE BOOTLICKERS OF THE MANAGEMENT,
WAS PREPARED TO CALL A MEETING OF THE EMPLOYEES TO CALM DOWN THE
TENSE ATMOSPHERE BUT HAD TO GIVE UP THE IDEA FOR FEAR OF INCIDENTS.
THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SECTION BECAME VICTIMS, TOO,
OF WHISPERING PROPAGANDA. THE MANAGEMENT SPREAD THROUGH ITS
INFORMERS THE RUMOR THAT ALL THE OPPOSITIONISTS WOULD BE FIRED EVEN
IF IT SHOULD MEAN A CUT IN BROADCASTING. ON THE OTHER HAND
ANOTHER RUMOR SAYS THAT KOSTRBA HAS ALREADY LOST AND HAS NO SUPPORT
AMONG THE AMERICANS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DIRECTOR HAZELHOFF.

THE "FREE-EUROPEANS" ARE REVOLTING AND GIVING A HEADACHE TO THE
AMERICAN BOSSES OF THE SENDER. A TRULY DIFFICULT JOB WITH THESE
LACKEYS!
END QUOTE

WE FOLLOWING THIS WITH EYES ONLY GIVING TEXT OF NEW MEMORANDUM
RECEIVED TODAY FROM NINETEEN EDITORS ON CZECHOSLOVAK DESK, AND
WILL FOLLOW THAT MESSAGE WITH OUR COMMENTS.
END MSG