

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/BACKGROUND USE ONLY

COUNTRY CZECHOSLOVAKIA/EAST GERMANY/USSR

REPORT NO. CIA Statute

SUBJECT PERFUNCTORY NATURE OF EAST BERLIN
VISIT OF BLOC FIRST SECRETARIES.

DATE DISTR. 3 JULY 1963

PRECEDENCE PRIORITY

DATE OF
INFO. 2 JULY 1963

REFERENCES IN

PLACE &
DATE ACQ. 50X1, CIA Statute (3 JULY 1963)

APPRAISAL 2

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE WELL-PLACED BLOC OFFICIAL (B) WITH HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK
PARTY (KSC) AND GOVERNMENT IN PRAGUE.

1. 50X1, CIA Statute

PRESIDENT ANTONIN NOVOTNY ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO EAST BERLIN, THE TRIP HAD BEEN
ARRANGED ON A FEW HOURS' NOTICE AND INCLUDED NO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. NOVOTNY
WAS ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY A MEDIUM-LEVEL OFFICIAL FROM THE THIRD DEPARTMENT (GERMAN)
OF THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TWO FUNCTIONARIES FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
AND HIS PERSONAL INTERPRETER. THERE WERE NO EXPERTS OR HIGH-RANKING PARTY OR
FOREIGN MINISTRY ADVISERS IN NOVOTNY'S ENTOURAGE. HIS ONLY CONTACT WITH SOVIET
PREMIER N. S. KHRUSHCHEV, EAST GERMAN OFFICIALS, OR THE OTHER SATELLITE FIRST
SECRETARIES WAS OF FORMAL, SOCIAL NATURE. NOVOTNY RECEIVED NO DELEGATIONS AT
THE EAST BERLIN VILLA WHERE HE STAYED, NOR WAS HE INVITED TO ATTEND ANY MEETINGS
WITH THE EAST GERMAN OR OTHER BLOC DIGNATARIES IN EAST BERLIN.

CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

STATE/INR	DIA	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF	NSA	NIC	OC	ONE	OCR	EX
-----------	-----	-----------	------	-----	-----	--------	-----	-----	----	-----	-----	----

STATE/DIR

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

Declassified Under Authority of the Interagency
Security Classification Appeals Panel,
E.O. 13526, sec. 5(b)(3)
ISCAP Appeal No. 2014-065, Document 5
Declassification Date: August 31, 2026

FORM
5-62

1Kb

OBsolete PREVIOUS EDITIONS.

(15-20)

~~SECRET~~/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM
ABROAD/BACKGROUND USE ONLY

2. AT WALTER ULBRICHT'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION ON 30 JUNE, NOVOTNY GREETED ULBRICHT WITH A FEW CONGRATULATORY WORDS WHEN HIS TURN CAME, FOR THE REST OF THE EVENING HE STOOD IN THE BACKGROUND AND WAS SPOKEN TO BY NO ONE OTHER THAN MEMBERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN. (SOURCE COMMENT: KHRUSHCHEV'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN IN CONNECTION WITH ULBRICHT'S BIRTHDAY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PRIMARILY DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AT LEAST TEMPORARY SUPPORT FOR ULBRICHT AND HIS REGIME. THERE WAS NO APPARENT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE VISIT AND THE OVERALL GERMAN PROBLEM OR THE CURRENT SINO-SOVIET TENSIONS. THE INFORMANT BELIEVED THAT THE PRESENCE IN EAST BERLIN OF THE SATELLITE FIRST SECRETARIES HAD BEEN ORDERED AT THE LAST MINUTE BY KHRUSHCHEV IN A MOVE TO LEND WEIGHT TO HIS SUPPORT OF ULBRICHT.)

3. SINCE THE VISITORS WERE ALL TOGETHER ONLY DURING THE THREE-HOUR STEAMER TRIP AND AT ULBRICHT'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION, WHEN THEY WERE NOT ALONE AND HAD NO REAL OPPORTUNITY FOR SERIOUS TALK, THERE WAS APPARENTLY NO REAL BLOC SUMMIT MEETING.

4. (FIELD COMMENT: THE SOURCE WAS ASKED FOR ANY INFORMATION ON A REPORTED MEETING OF WARSAW PACT DEFENSE MINISTERS IN EAST BERLIN OR ON REPORTED MOVEMENTS OF SOVIET TROOPS AROUND BERLIN. HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO CONFIRM OR DENY THE REPORTS.)

END OF MESSAGE