

Approved for Release AR  
70-14  
Historical Collections Division  
Date: 06-05-2013



CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

The declaration issued by the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee which met in Moscow on 7 June provided further evidence that the Soviet leaders are not prepared at present to bring the Berlin situation to a head and that they intend to continue the bilateral talks with the US. There was no indication, however, that the USSR will moderate its terms for a Berlin settlement in order to step up the pace of the negotiations. Moscow apparently intends to stand firmly on its present position while playing for time in which to press for Western concessions by warning that further Western "delaying tactics" will leave the bloc with no alternative but to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany.

While the tone of the Warsaw Pact declaration was relatively moderate, Khrushchev adopted a stronger line in private remarks on 9 June [redacted]. Obviously tailoring his comments for Western leaders, the Soviet premier stated that although agreement on certain items had been reached in the US-Soviet talks, the USSR cannot agree with the right of Western powers to keep troops in West Berlin. He said that, at the "maximum," the Soviets could accept UN troops there. In an effort to emphasize the consequences for the West of a separate peace treaty with East Germany, Khrushchev renewed earlier warnings that the USSR would cut the supply lines to Western forces in West Berlin. He added, however, that Moscow would not declare a blockade of Berlin or attempt to force US troops out of the city. As in earlier talks with Western officials, Khrushchev again expressed skepticism that the West would fight in response to a separate peace treaty.

He also confided that Soviet troops which had been kept

in East Germany last year after the completion of their regular tour had been sent back to the USSR. It is believed that most of the Soviet forces retained at that time have, in fact, returned to the USSR.

Reflecting the continued Soviet interest in seeking a solution to the Berlin problem through negotiations, Khrushchev's 12 June message to President Kennedy hailing the formation of a Laotian coalition government commented that the settlement in Laos provides an example for "solving other international problems which now divide states and create tension in the world." Khrushchev pointed out that all that was necessary was a "desire to resolve international problems" on a basis of mutual cooperation, taking account of the interests of all sides.

The Warsaw Pact declaration stated that Foreign Minister Gromyko had reported on the US-Soviet negotiations and that the other Warsaw Pact members endorsed the Soviet position and favored the continuation of the bilateral talks. The statement attacked what it claimed were Western efforts to use the talks to delay a final settlement on the main issues, namely, the withdrawal of the occupation forces from West Berlin and the liquidation of the occupation regime. It declared that if the West is unwilling to agree to a mutually acceptable solution to the German problem, then the bloc will conclude a separate treaty, after which West Berlin "will be regarded as a demilitarized, free city." The memorandum Khrushchev gave President Kennedy at Vienna in June 1961 stated that the peace treaty "will specifically designate the status of West Berlin as a free city," but the USSR has devoted little attention to this point in recent months.



APPROVED FOR RELEASE 138  
Date - - AUG 1995

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

Berlin Incidents

Moscow has used the recent series of incidents along the Berlin sector border to warn against any moves to upset US-Soviet talks and to question Western intentions regarding a negotiated settlement. A 10 June Moscow Radio commentary, alleging that the incidents were caused by West Berlin police provocations, pointed out that this rising air of tension was taking place "precisely at the same moment" when the US-Soviet talks were being held. The commentary pointed out that the West's deliberate encouragement of the West Berlin authorities in this regard raised the question of its "real desire" for successful talks.

The increased tension on the sector border has been due in large part to the growing number of escape attempts. This has resulted in more aggressive action by the East German border police and a greater willingness on the part of West Berlin authorities to come to the aid of the refugees. The Ulbricht regime has intensified security measures along both the sector and zonal border surrounding West Berlin and has also begun to build more substantial defenses inside East Berlin.

The USSR gave its formal backing to the East Germans in a note delivered to the three Western occupation powers on 7 June. The note takes the position that provocations during the last week in May were caused by the West Berlin police with the open support of the occupation forces in West Berlin. It stressed that these incidents only serve to demonstrate the urgent need to "normalize" the situation in West Berlin and "eliminate the occupation regime there."

The note concluded on an ominous note, stating that the

Soviet Government "may be forced to take appropriate measures in order to fulfill its obligations toward the German Democratic Republic." The USSR thus attempted to disclaim responsibility for the actions of the East German police, and to induce the Western Allies to bring pressure on West Berlin officials to change their policy which authorizes West Berlin police to shoot back at East Germans.

Moscow used the occasion of West German Defense Minister Strauss' recent trip to the US to attack Bonn's alleged intentions to secure nuclear weapons from the US and described the visit as another step in West Germany's campaign to obstruct progress in the US-Soviet bilateral talks on Berlin. Izvestia on 12 June also bitterly attacked the West German Government for allegedly planning the "provocative" incidents now occurring in West Berlin and concluded that this only serves to complicate solution of the Berlin problem.

The East Germans have protested the scheduled 17 June visit by Adenauer to West Berlin. A note to the US via Prague claimed that the visit disregarded the "legal" position that West Berlin is not part of West Germany and that Adenauer's visit was designed to encourage "acts of aggression" in Berlin at a time when "certain signs suggest a possibility of understanding" on the normalization of conditions in West Berlin. The note pointed out that the West German leader's flight on a military aircraft would violate the air traffic regulations for West Berlin inasmuch as these air routes were "originally established to supply the occupation troops."