

INCOMING MESSAGE

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

¹³
SECRET

121600Z

Berlin

PRECEDENCE (ACTION)

PRECEDENCE (INFO)

PRIORITY

PRIORITY

P 121600Z

FM USCINCEUR

TO RUEKDA/JCS

INFO RUFFPAG/CINCUSAREUR
RUFFPBW/USAFE
RUFFPHA/USCOB GER
RUFDBG/AMEMB BONN GER
ZEN/US-ELM LIVE OAK PARIS FR

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5
NLJ/RAC 12-211
By 446 NARA, Date 12-15-2012

MASTER FILE

~~SECRET~~

ECJC-J 09862

REFERENCE: JCS MSG 6248, DTD 9 MAY 1964

1. (S) THE ISSUE OF COMMUNIST FLAGS FLYING ON EAST GERMAN ENGINES PULLING US TRAINS, WHILE IRRITATING, DOES NOT IMPINGE ON OUR RIGHT OF ACCESS. SETTING BRAKES ON THE TRAIN UNDER THESE CONDITIONS ESCALATES THE ISSUE TO A SELF-IMPOSED DENIAL OF ACCESS. MINOR HARASSMENT OF THIS SORT CAN BEST BE HANDLED ON THE SPOT THROUGH PROTESTS TO THE SOVIETS (SUCCESSFUL IN ISSUE OF DISMOUNTING FREIGHT TRAIN GUARDS IN EARLY 1963).

2. (S) IN THE EVENT OF CONTINUED HARASSMENT ON FLAG ISSUE, THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO USCOB:

A. PROTEST TO SOVIET GUARD AND EAST GERMAN RAILROAD PERSONNEL, DEMANDING REMOVAL OF FLAGS.

B. IF EAST GERMANS MOVE TRAIN WITHOUT REMOVING FLAGS, ALLOW TRAIN TO PROCEED UNDER PROTEST (DO NOT SET BRAKES).

C. HAVE OIC, US HELMSTEDT DETACHMENT, PREPARED TO LODGE AN IMMEDIATE PROTEST, ON ORDER, AT THE HELMSTEDT CHECK-POINT. THESE ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN WITHOUT REGARD FOR THE DIRECTION OF THE US TRAINS INVOLVED.

ACT.....J3-7

CJCS-2 DJS-3 SJCS-3 J4-2 J5-1 SACS-5 DIA-14 NMCC-2 JSSG-1
USRSG-4 CSA-2 CSAF-2 CNO-2 CMC-10 OSD-15 RRA-1 FILE-1(77)JRT

ADV CY TO NMCC

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3. (S) SOVIET REPLY TO OUR C/S, USAREUR TO C/S, GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES PROTEST OF 7 MAY 1964 MAY GIVE AN INDICATION OF COMMUNIST INTENTIONS IN THIS MATTER. UNLESS THE COMMUNISTS BROADEN THE AREA OF HARASSMENT, US REACTION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO PROTESTS WITHIN CINCEUCOM AREA. CURRENT US INSTRUCTIONS ARE DESIGNED TO AVOID A SERIOUS IMPASSE OVER THE FLAG ISSUE WHILE MAINTAINING UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO BERLIN. GP-3

BT

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