



July 30, 1974

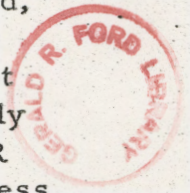
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Acting on the Secretary's instructions, the Counselor called Soviet Charge Vorontsov at 7:15 PM this evening on the Berlin access problem. Vorontsov began the conversation by offering congratulations on the Cyprus settlement, for which the Counselor thanked him. Mr. Sonnenfeldt then said that the Secretary had looked at the Soviet points on Berlin and had instructed the Counselor to say the following.

The Soviet reply was not reassuring since it justified illegal interference by the GDR with civilian access. We had hoped not to get into a formal exchange on this problem with the Soviet Union, but since access problems were continuing, there is growing pressure for a formal demarche which is now under consideration among the Western signatories of the Quadripartite Agreement. The United States had already found it necessary to postpone the completion of our agreement with the GDR since the latter's actions had created a political obstacle. The Secretary had asked the Counselor to once more, in the Secretary's name, urge the Soviet Union to meet its responsibilities under the Quadripartite Agreement to see to it that interference on the access routes is ended.

After hearing the Counselor out, Vorontsov said he would report the conversation, but that he had one question. Since problems on the access routes were adhering to a clearcut definition and pattern, and only FEA employees were involved, was the United States asking the Soviet to help the FEA move into West Berlin? The Counselor responded that that was not the issue and that stoppages on the access routes were clearly prohibited by the Quadripartite Agreement. Neither the GDR nor the Soviet Union had the right to stop vehicles on the access routes. Although there was a difference of opinion as to whether



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the FEA office in Berlin was legal, there was no doubt that interference on the access routes clearly violated the Quadripartite Agreement. Vorontsov said that the Soviet position that the FEA was completely illegal had not changed, but that he would send the conversation to Moscow.

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