

# TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

14/2

OUTGOING

U.S. MISSION BERLIN

FILE ROOM COPY

POL 23-10  
Wall

Charge:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Classification

Control: 132

Date: AUGUST 20, 1964  
1830 HOURS

MIN 3  
USCOB  
POL 2  
EAS 3  
ESIS  
ASAG  
IO U  
CONS  
F&R

ACTION: SecState WASHINGTON 242

INFO: Amembassy BONN 220  
 Amembassy LONDON (POUCH)  
 Amembassy MOSCOW "  
 Amembassy PARIS 105

USAREUR/POLAD  
 USCINCEUR/POLAD  
 USELMLO  
 USNMR SHAPE FOR BURNS

PARIS ALSO FOR USRO

SUBJ: Alleged Detention in East Berlin of American  
Students John Cochran and George Lepisto

REF: Berlintel 209 to Dept, 189 to Bonn

1. Mission efforts in West Berlin to locate John Cochran and George Lepisto, American students allegedly detained in East Berlin on August 13 (reftel) thus far unsuccessful. West Berlin police checks of tourist registration revealed no record. Pair have not as yet reported in to U.S. Military Police or other U.S. authorities.

2. Since these means exhausted, Mission has requested assistance Soviet Embassy in East Berlin. On August 20, Mission Acting Protocol Officer provided Soviet Embassy Protocol Officer with the information available to us on the circumstances surrounding the detention of the two students

132/TAF

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# TELEGRAM

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United States of America

OUTGOING

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Charge:

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Classification

Control: 132

Date:


-2-

and requested Soviet Embassy assistance in locating them.

Soviet Officer promised to look into the matter.

It remains possible, in light GDR handling of Connor case (reftel), that these students were later released and left Berlin quietly.

GP-4

CALHOUN  


Cleared:

CONS - S. Kearney

EAS:RGLivingston:eo

20 August 1745

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# TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

OUTGOING

US MISSION, BERLIN

FILE ROOM COPY

*File 29  
174  
DETENTIONS  
3-0*

Charge:

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Classification

Control:

174

Date: Aug 28, 1964

2PM

ACTION: SecState WASH 273

INFO: Amembassy BONN 248  
Amembassy LONDON (POUCH)  
Amembassy MOSCOW "  
Amembassy PARIS "  
USAREUR/POLAD "  
USCINCEUR/POLAD "  
USELMLO "  
USNMR SHAPE FOR BURNS "  
PARIS ALSO FOR USRO

SUBJECT: Detention in East Berlin of American Students  
John Cochran and George Lepisto

Ref: Berlintel 242 to Dept, 220 to Bonn

EA3  
MIN3  
USCOB  
POL2  
USIS  
IO  
ASG  
CON  
F&R2

During call upon Mission's Acting Protocol Officer Aug 27, Protocol Officer of Soviet Embassy in East Berlin stated that his Embassy had learned that Lepisto and Cochran had been released after detention of two or three hours.

Soviet Officer accused two students of "very bad behavior" and "hooliganism." He said they may have been drunk. They had "organized a disturbance" in East Berlin "club" which they visited. Director of "club" summoned police, who detained, interrogated and then released them.

Comment: Apparently two students left Berlin without informing US authorities.

GP-4.

CALHOUN

AUTH: RGLivingston

Cleared: *by gl* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONS - Miss Kearney Classification

EAS:RGLivingston:em  
28 AUGUST 1045

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