

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

12 February 1962

USSR PARDONS CONVICTED SPY PILOT POWERS

Reasons for Pardon

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 10 February 1962--L

(Text) The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, after examining the petition of the parents of American pilot Francis Gary Powers, who was condemned in the Soviet Union, and taking into account the admission by Powers that he had committed a most serious crime, as well as being prompted by a desire to improve relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, has adopted a decision to pardon Francis Gary Powers and to hand him over to the American authorities.

U.S. Press Coverage

Moscow TASS in Russian to Europe 1858 GMT 10 February 1962--L

(Text) Washington--The announced decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to pardon Francis Powers in the interests of improving Soviet-U.S. relations managed to get into the late editions of U.S. morning papers, which published it under enormous banner headlines. An AP correspondent reports from Moscow that Powers left his place of imprisonment with the following words: "I will never fly over Soviet Russia again."

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Date ~~12 SEP 1985~~

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