

FORM 10-1-67

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Intelligence Information Cable

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13 SEPTEMBER 1968

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs  
(C)

COUNTRY- CZECHOSLOVAKIA/WEST GERMANY

DOI - 9 SEPTEMBER 1968

SUBJECT- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE REPLACEMENT OF THE  
CHIEF OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS AGENCY /CTK/

ACQ - [REDACTED]  
SOURCE - [REDACTED]

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1. ACCORDING TO ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE  
CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, JAROSLAV SUK HAS BEEN  
APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS AGENCY (CTK) TO  
REPLACE MIROSLAV SOLEK.

2. JAROSLAV SUK, THE NEW DIRECTOR OF CTK, IS A MEMBER  
OF THE LIBERAL WING OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY AND  
A "DUBCEK MAN." SUK IS ABOUT 45 YEARS OLD AND HAS TWENTY  
YEARS OF JOURNALISTIC EXPERIENCE IN THE NEWS FIELD, ALL OF

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WHICH WAS GAINED AS AN EMPLOYEE OF CTK.

3. THE FORMER CTK DIRECTOR, SULEK, IS A HARD-LINE COMMUNIST. A MECHANIC BY TRAINING, SULEK IS THE THE PROTOTYPE OF A COMMUNIST PARTY HACK WHO HAD NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE AS A JOURNALIST AT THE TIME HE WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF CTK ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO BY THE NOVOTNY GROUP. SULEK WAS BORN ABOUT 1913 IN THE CARPATHO-UKRAINE, NOW A PART OF THE SOVIET UNION. PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS CTK DIRECTOR, HE HAD BEEN FOR MANY YEARS CHIEF OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY DISTRICT OF KOSICE.

4. SULEK HAD BEEN UNDER FIRE FOR INCOMPETENCY SINCE ABOUT JANUARY 1968, BUT THE DECISION TO REPLACE HIM WAS MADE AFTER 21 AUGUST, SINCE HE IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN A SOVIET COLLABORATOR. SULEK WAS THE MAN WHO RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED SOVIET INSTRUCTIONS TO SEND OVER THE CTK WIRE THE SO-CALLED "CZECH APPEAL" TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WARSAW PACT TO "SAVE SOCIALISM IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA". SULEK FAILED TO CARRY OUT SOVIET ORDERS, HOWEVER, SINCE HE COULD NOT PERSUADE THE EDITORS AT THE MAIN CTK OFFICE IN PRAGUE WHO WERE ON DUTY LATE 28 AUGUST TO SEND THE "APPEAL". SULEK WAS STILL ARGUING WITH THE CTK EDITORS TO FILE HIS "URGENT MESSAGE" WHEN TANKS OF THE WARSAW

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FACT FORCES ENTERED CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

COMMENT-

[REDACTED] THE CHOICE OF SULEK FOR THIS TASK WAS A POOR ONE BY ANY STANDARD AND REFLECTS THE SOVIET LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION. [REDACTED] FOR ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THIS AFFAIR [REDACTED]

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SEE A NEW YORK

"TIMES" STORY BY DAVID BINDER DATED BONN 5 SEPTEMBER.

5. [REDACTED]

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6. [REDACTED] DISSEM- EMBASSY BONN, USAREUR, USAFE, US- CINCEUR. ALSO SENT BERLIN?

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