



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1523
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JANUARY 24, 1971
9:40 AM

State Dept. review completed

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FOR AMBASSADOR BEAM FROM THE SECRETARY
SUBJECT: LENINGRAD CONSULATE GENERAL

1. WE BELIEVE THAT SOVIET BEHAVIOR IN NEGOTIATIONS OVER PROPERTY FOR OFFICE PREMISES IN LENINGRAD INDICATE THEY ARE AWARE OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES WE WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT THERE. ALL SITES THEY HAVE OFFERED US APPEAR DELIBERATELY SELECTED TO PREVENT SUCH ACTIVITIES. THEIR NOVEMBER 19, 1970 OFFER TO CONSTRUCT AN ANNEX NO HIGHER THAN 16.5 METERS AT PETRA LAVROVA 39 LIKEWISE SEEMS TO SIGNAL THIS.
2. ZINCHUK INFORMED US IN NOVEMBER THAT SOVIETS WOULD WAIT 50 YEARS TO OPEN A CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO RATHER THAN ACCEPT THE DAMAGE TO THEIR SECURITY IMPLICIT IN THE BUILDING REQUIREMENTS WE HAVE GIVEN THEM FOR LENINGRAD. THIS APPEARS TO BE AN INTENTIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SOVIET CONCERN OVER WHAT THEY SUSPECT OUR INTENTIONS ARE IN LENINGRAD.
3. IN ORDER TO DETERMINE DEFINITELY WHETHER THE SOVIETS ARE UNBUDGING IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO SATISFYING OUR DESIRED REQUIREMENTS, EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT WE PROPOSE TO SEND SMALL ADVANCE PARTY TO LENINGRAD, HEADED BY CONSUL GENERAL DESIGNATE GLEYSTEN. PARTY'S TASK WOULD BE TO TRY TO CONCLUDE PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS RAPIDLY AND SATISFACTORILY FOR BOTH SIDES. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF SPECIAL EFFORT COULD BE MADE TO SHOW PARTY ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES MEETING OUR REQUIREMENTS IN DOWNTOWN LENINGRAD.
4. IF SOVIETS SAY THAT NO OTHER PROPERTIES ARE AVAILABLE IN DESIRED AREA AND THAT THEIR NOVEMBER 20, 1970 OFFER IS THE BEST THEY CAN MAKE US, EMBASSY SHOULD SAY THIS WILL BE REPORTED BACK TO WASHINGTON. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO INDICATE THAT WE WISH TO RESOLVE PROBLEM EXPEDITIOUSLY.

NSA review completed

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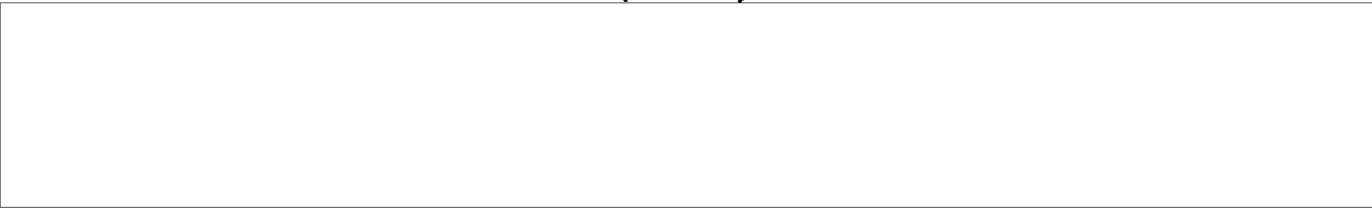
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5. FYI. MAJOR REASON FOR SENDING ADVANCE PARTY IS TO TEST SOVIET INTENTIONS, SINCE WE CAN NOT OPENLY DISCUSS MATTER AT HEART OF NEGOTIATION. ADDITIONAL REASON WOULD BE THAT IF FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS FAIL AND OUR ADVANCE PARTY WAS WITHDRAWN FROM LENINGRAD, THIS WOULD PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR REQUESTING THE SOVIETS TO WITHDRAW THEIR ADVANCE TEAM FROM SAN FRANCISCO. END FYI. ROGERS

DRAFTED BY: EUR/SOV:CGLEESTEEN
APPROVED BY: THE SECRETARY
CLEARANCES: THE WHITE HOUSE - SONNENFELD
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EUR - MR. HILLENBRAND
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NO DISSEMINATION

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