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1969 AUGUST 19 PM 1 28
NODIS REVIEW

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FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY

SUBJECT: TUMS

REF: MOSCOW 2355, STATE 092764

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Reviewed by: Ambassador W. Witman, II
Date: 4/3 1975

*Moscow 4343
8/19/69
BG/13 Moscow XE Pol 17-6 US-USSR
XR PER 14-12 Moscow*

1. CHIEF MFA AMERICAN DEPARTMENT (KORNIYENKO) ASKED ME TO CALL TODAY SINCE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV STILL OUT OF TOWN. DLOSSON ACCOMPANIED ME.

2. REFERRING TO MY MEETING WITH GROMYKO ON MAY 26 ON TUMS, KORNIYENKO READ ORAL STATEMENT (TEST BELOW) WHICH HE SAID KUZNETSOV HAD WISHED TO GIVE ME. STATEMENT DENIES ANY SPECIAL BEAM IS DIRECTED AT EMBASSY; THAT, IN ANY CASE, RADIATION LEVEL SURROUNDING EMBASSY IS MUCH LOWER THAN SAFETY STANDARDS ACKNOWLEDGED IN WASHINGTON; AND AGAIN PROPOSES A JOINT INVESTIGATION, INCLUDING INSIDE THE EMBASSY.

(3)

3. I TOLD KORNIYENKO THAT OUR FINDINGS WERE DIFFERENT. I GAVE HIM DIAGRAM SHOWING HOW BEAM IS DIRECTED FROM NEARBY SOVIET APARTMENT AT THE OFFICE SECTION OF THE CHANCERY AND EXPLAINED THAT RADIO BEAM COVERS FROM THE THIRD TO THE TENTH FLOOR OF THE CHANCERY. I PASSED OVER HIS PROPOSAL FOR A JOINT INVESTIGATION, POINTING OUT WE WERE PRESENTING NEW SPECIFIC EVIDENCE.

4. KORNIYENKO AT FIRST TRIED TO DISMISS PATTERN OF BEAM AND THEN, RETURNING TO THEME THAT SOVIET SCIENTISTS MAINTAIN THERE IS NO DANGER FOR HUMANS, ASKED WHY WE WERE DISTRESSED. I REPLIED THAT THE BEAM IS A LOW-ENERGY HIGH FREQUENCY SIGNAL, AND WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN ABOUT ITS LONG-TERM EFFECTS. I POINTED OUT THAT SIMILAR ENERGY RAYS IN EXPERIMENTS ON ANIMALS HAD BROUGHT ABOUT PHYSIOLOGICAL CHANGES. I ALSO MENTIONED THAT A FORMER EMBASSY EMPLOYEE, WHOSE WIFE HAD RECENTLY DIED OF CANCER, WAS BRINGING SUIT ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE SOVIET SIGNAL HAD CAUSED HER ILLNESS. I REMINDED HIM THAT WE HAD TREATED THE EXISTENCE OF THE SOVIET RADIO BEAM IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE BUT THAT WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THERE WOULD BE NO PUBLICITY BECAUSE OF NUMBER OF PERSONS RETURNING TO WASHINGTON WHO HAD KNOWLEDGE OF IT. KORNIYENKO'S REJOINDER WAS SIMPLY THAT SOVIET MEDICAL SPECIALISTS HAD EXCLUDED ANY POSSIBILITY OF DANGER TO HUMANS.

5. I CONCLUDED BY ASKING THAT HIS SPECIALISTS STUDY THE DIAGRAM OF THE SIGNAL THAT I HAD GIVEN HIM.

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6. TEXT OF SOVIET ORAL STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH THE RAISING ONCE AGAIN BY YOU IN A CONVERSATION WITH MINISTER A. A. GROMYKO OF THE QUESTION CONCERNING ALLEGED IRRADIATION (OBYLCHENIE) OF THE BUILDING OF THE USA EMBASSY IN MOSCOW BY RADIO WAVES, A THOROUGH VERIFICATION WAS REPEATEDLY CONDUCTED, THE RESULTS OF WHICH CONFIRMED THAT NO SPECIALLY DIRECTED RADIO IRRADIATION OF THE EMBASSY BUILDING IS CARRIED ON.

7. THE PRESENCE OF A DEFINITE LEVEL OF RADIO IRRADIATION IN THE AREA OF THE EMBASSY IS EXPLAINED BY THE WORK OF RADIO ELECTRONIC APPARATUSES OF DIFFERENT INSTITUTES AND LABORATORIES, LOCATED NEAR THE EMBASSY. THIS LEVEL DOES NOT REPRESENT, HOWEVER, ANY DANGER TO THE HEALTH OF PEOPLE. MOREOVER, IT IS MANY TIMES LESS THAN THOSE NORMS OF IRRADIATION BY RADIO WAVES, WHICH ARE ACKNOWLEDGED IN THE USA AS COMPLETELY SAFE.

8. INASMUCH AS THE EMBASSY HAS AGAIN RETURNED TO THIS QUESTION, WE RENEW OUR PROPOSAL THAT SOVIET AND AMERICANS JOINTLY CONDUCT MEASUREMENTS OF THE LEVEL OF RADIO IRRADIATION IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE EMBASSY BUILDING AND ALSO INSIDE THE BUILDING. END QUOTE.

9. COMMENT. PUBLICITY ON TUMS WILL PROBABLY BREAK EVENTUALLY AND I DO NOT SEE HOW OR WHY WE SHOULD PROTECT SOVIETS IF IT COMES. THEIR OBVIOUS DEFENSE WILL BE THAT WE ARE DECLINING THEIR OFFER OF A JOINT INVESTIGATION, WHICH OF COURSE WOULD MAKE LITTLE SENSE BECAUSE THEY CAN EASILY ARRANGE THAT THERE WILL BE NOTHING TO INVESTIGATE. I DID NOT HOWEVER CATEGORICALLY REJECT THEIR PROPOSAL AND BY SUBMITTING NEW EVIDENCE, LEFT AN OPENING TO GO BACK TO THEM AGAIN. IF THAT FAILS, IT WILL BECOME A QUESTION OF COMPARATIVE CREDIBILITY, WITH OUR RECORD BEING THE MORE CONVINCING.

10. I CAN DISCUSS MATTER PRIVATELY WITH DOBRYNIN BEFORE HIS RETURN, AS WAS DONE IN THE PAST, AND SECRETARY MAY CONSIDER TAKING IT UP WITH GROMYKO IN NEW YORK, AS SECRETARY RUSK DID IN 1967. IN MEANTIME WE SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH PREPARING THE RECORD. GP-3.

BEAM

~~SECRET~~

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