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P 231414Z AUG 68 FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2441

CONFIDENTIAL BLANTYRE 1965

SUBJECT: SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: SECSTATE CIRCULAR 225 147

- 1. EMBASSY HAS WITH SOME DIFFICULTY FOCUSED ATTENTION OF SENIOR AVAILABLE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICER ON CZECHOSLOVAKIAN CRISIS AND URGED APPROPRIATE GOM STATEMENT. PROMPT CONSIDERA-TION BY GOM (READ DR. BANDA) WAS PROMISED.
- 2. REALITY OF SITUATION IN MALAWI EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY. AND GOM IN GENERAL, IS THAT VISIT OF SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER MULLER (AUGUST 27) IS RECEIVING TOP PRIORITY. TO THE VIRTUAL EXCLUSION OF OTHER MATTERS. ALTHOUGH STRONG STATEMENT CONDEMNING SVIET INTERVENTION IS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR WOULD ORDER, WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THAT PROMPT STATEMENT WILL BE MADE.
- 3. HOPEFUL FACTOR IS THAT CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET INTERVENTION IS MATTER UPON WHICH BANDA AND MULLER WOULD FULLY AGREE, AND APPROPRIATE STATEMENT ON CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS ON EVE OF MULLER VISIT MAY THEREFORE BE IN THE CARDS. GP-4. JONES

E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4 Bysi Comward, Date 5 22 06 CONFIDENTIAL