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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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NO FOREIGN DISSEME SECRET (When Filled In) TDCs-3/566,658 BELK REPORT NO. COUNTRY SOVIET BLOC / YUGOSIAVIA ...BRUBECK 6 DECEMBER: 1963 COMMENTS OF YUGOSLAV AND BLOC DIPLOMETS SE DATE DISTR. SUBJECT ON THE PROBABLE EFFECT OF KENNEDY ASDANGEMAN __DUNGAN PRECEDENCE SINATION ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS __ECKEL FORRESTATEFERENCE 25-29 NOVEMBER 1963. DATE OF JOHNSON INFO. (28 NOVEMBER, 2 DECEMBER 1963) PLACE & GREECE, ATHENS DATE ACQ. 2 (THAT STATEMENTS ARE ACCURATEL REPORTED) FIELD REPORT NO. APPRAISAL THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS AREIDEEING IVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

A GREEK POLITICAL OBSERVER (B) WITH-CONTACTS COME BLOC DIPLOMATS IN ATHEMS, FROM THE DIPLOMATS MENTIONED BELOW, SMITH, WM. Y.

FOLLOWING ARE EXAMPLES OF (PORTION GARBLED-BEING SERVICED) BEING TAKEN BY SOVBLOC AND YUGOSLAV DIPLOMATS IN GREEK CIRCLES:

1. ON 25 NOVEMBER 63, YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO GREECE PEKO
DAPCEVIC EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY WOULD NOT
CHANGE THE INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE, ADDING THAT HE IS CERTAIN
SOVIET UNION IS WELL DISPOSED TO CONTINUE FRIENDLY CONTACTS WITH
WEST. DAPCEVIC SAID THERE HAS BEEN "A GREAT PSYCHOLOGICAL CHANGE"
ON PART OF SOVIET PEOPLE IN PAST FEW YEARS FROM EARLIER ATTITUDE
THAT ALL AMERICANS AND PARTICULARLY AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ARE WAR
MONGERS TO CURRENT THINKING THAT AMERICANS, LIKE SOVIETS,

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REALLY WANT PEACE. ZENITH OF THIS CHANGE CAME WHEN UNITED STATES
ANNOUNCED IT WAS WILLING TO SELL WHEAT TO SOVIET UNION. ACCORDING
TO DAPCEVIC, THIS ANNOUNCEMENT MADE TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON SOVIET
PEOPLE AND THEIR FEELING IS NOW SO FAVORABLE TOWARD AMERICANS
THAT EVEN IF SOVIET LEADERSHIP WANTED TO REVERSE THIS FEELING,
IT COULD NOT EASILY DO SO.

- 2. ON 26 NOVEMBER, CZECH FIRST SECRETARY VAKLAV SVESTKA

 STATED THAT CZECH EMBASSY IN ATHENS HAD NOT YET RECEIVED REACTION

 OF PRAGUE TO THE ASSASSINATION, BUT FEELING OF CZECH EMBASSY

 PEOPLE IN ATHENS WAS THAT U S POLICY WOULD NOT CHANGE MATERIALLY.

 SVESTKA EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ASSASSINATION WILL HAVE DELAYING

 ACTION ON IMPROVED EAST-WEST RELATIONS: UNDER KENNEDY THINGS

 WERE MOVING QUICKLY TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING, AND CHANGE OF PRESIDENT

 NOW WILL OF NECESSITY SLOW DOWN THE COURSE OF EVENTS BECAUSE

 "PERSONAL FACTOR" IS NOW MISSING. KENNEDY HAD DEVELOPED CONTACTS

 WITH SOVIET LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVED ACCEPTANCE OF SOVBLOC (PORTION

 GARBLED) POPULATIONS AS PEACE LOVING MAN; JOHNSON HAS TO ESTABLISH

 THIS FOR HIMSELF NOW, AND IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME.
- 3. ON 29 NOVEMBER, SOVIET FIRST SECRETARY VITALLY NOVIKOV
 STATED THAT SOVIETS DO NOT EXPECT IMMEDIATE CHANGE IN US FOREIGN
 POLICY BECAUSE WITH ONLY ONE YEAR BEFORE ELECTIONS JOHNSON AS
 NON-ELECTED PRESIDENT IS NOT LIKELY TO CHANGE BASIC KENNEDY

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POLICIES. SOVIETS ARE ANXIOUS, HOWEVER, OVER FUTURE EAST-WEST RELATIONS. ASSASSINATION CLEARLY SHOWS RADICAL RIGHT-WING ELEMENTS ARE STRONG, HAVE SUPPORTERS IN LOCAL POLICE AND POLITICAL CIRCLES AND ARE WILLING TO FIGHT FOR THEIR IDEALS. IT ALSO REVEALS, NOVIKOV SAID, STRENGTH OF REACTION IN AMERICA TO KENNEDY POLICIES SOVIET PEOPLE FEAR THAT RIGHT-WING WILL BE DOMINANT.

- HE WAS CERTAIN THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN BLOC POLICY VIS-A-VIS WEST AND ANY INCREASE IN TENSION WOULD BE RESULT OF CHANGED AMERICAN POLICY.
- 5. FIELD DISSEM STATE ARMY NAVY AIR EUCOM CINCNELM CINCSOUTH (PERSONAL).
 - 6. *HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: MISSING PORTIONS WILL BE DISSEMINATED ONLY IF

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END OF MESSAGE

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