

ADVANCE COPIES

18

US/SOVIET ARMS CONTROL TALKS / EAST WEST US / SOVIET RELATIONS

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FM MOSCOW

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IMMEDIATE

OF 230745Z OCTOBER 86
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
INFO PRIORITY PARIS, BONN, UKDEL NATO

EXPULSION OF US DIPLOMATS FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND MEASURES
TO RESTRICT US EMBASSY ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY

1. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE LATE ON 22 OCTOBER, MFA SPOKESMAN GERASIMOV ANNOUNCED THAT 5 MORE US DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL (FOUR FROM MOSCOW, ONE FROM LENINGRAD) WERE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA. IN ADDITION ALL LOCALLY EMPLOYED STAFF WERE TO BE WITHDRAWN, AND OTHER MEASURES INTRODUCED TO LIMIT THE NUMBERS COMING TO THE EMBASSY AND CONSULATE. NUMERICAL EQUIVALENCE WAS TO BE ESTABLISHED, WITH SOVIET DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE USA.

DETAIL

2. IN HIS STATEMENT GERASIMOV DESCRIBED THE EXPULSIONS OF SOVIET PERSONNEL FROM WASHINGTON AND SAN FRANCISCO AS THE "LATEST ANTI-SOVIET ACTION", "WITHOUT ANY GROUNDS" AND "OPPORTUNIST AND PROVOCATIVE". HE SAID THAT THE "DISCRIMINATION" HAD BEGUN SOME YEARS AGO WHEN THE US HAD APPLIED A QUOTA. THE UN EXPULSIONS IN SEPTEMBER WERE COMPLETELY CONTRARY TO THE UN HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT, AND HAD BEEN CALCULATED TO UNDERMINE THE SHULTZ/SHEVARDNADZE MEETINGS. SOVIET COUNTER-MEASURES, ABOUT WHICH THE US HAD BEEN WARNED HAD BEEN PREPARED, BUT HAD NOT THEN BEEN IMPLEMENTED BECAUSE OF THE REYKJAVIK MEETING.

3. IN ANSWER TO THE US CLAIM THAT LESS PEOPLE WERE EMPLOYED IN US MISSIONS THAN SOVIET ONES GERASIMOV POINTED OUT THAT THE AMERICANS HAD LOCAL EMPLOYEES: THUS THE TOTAL NUMBER IN THE US EMBASSY AND CONSULATE IN LENINGRAD WAS 460, AS AGAINST ABOUT 300 FOR THE RUSSIANS IN WASHINGTON AND SAN FRANCISCO. BESIDES THIS, THE AMERICANS BROUGHT IN EACH YEAR UP TO 500 SHORT-TERM PERSONNEL FOR UP TO ONE YEAR ASSIGNMENTS. "WE HAVE NOW DECIDED TO ELIMINATE THIS INEQUALITY".



THIS INEQUALITY''.

4. GERASIMOV THEN SET OUT THE FOLLOWING COUNTERMEASURES:

I) BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUING USE OF US MISSIONS FOR UNPERMITTED ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION THE FOLLOWING WERE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA AND HAD TO LEAVE BY 1 NOVEMBER:

CAPT. THOMAS HOLME (NAVAL ATTACHE)
COL. RICHARD NAAB (MILITARY ATTACHE)
MICHAEL MORGAN (2ND SECRETARY)
MICHAEL MATERA (3RD SECRETARY)
DANIEL GROSSMAN (VICE-CONSUL, LENINGRAD)

II) THE NUMBER OF US PERSONNEL ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS (UP TO ONE YEAR) WAS TO BE BROUGHT STRICTLY INTO LINE WITH THE NUMBER OF RUSSIANS IN THE SAME CATEGORY.

III) US OFFICIAL PERSONNEL IN THE SOVIET UNION WERE AT NO POINT TO EXCEED THE NUMBER OF SOVIET OFFICIAL PERSONNEL IN THE US.

IV) THE NUMBER OF US CITIZENS ENTERING THE SOVIET UNION AS GUESTS OF THE US AMBASSADOR OR OF EMBASSY AND CONSULATE EMPLOYEES WAS TO BE ''SHARPLY CONSTRAINED''. EVERY YEAR 200 AMERICANS ENTERED BY THIS METHOD AND ''IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER'' WERE PUT TO WORK IN THE US MISSIONS.

V) THE US EMBASSY AND CONSULATE WERE TO BE DEPRIVED OF ALL THEIR LOCAL EMPLOYEES - ABOUT 260. AT THE SAME TIME THEY WERE FORBIDDEN TO TAKE ON EMPLOYEES FROM THIRD COUNTRIES.

5. GERASIMOV SAID THAT ''FULL NUMERICAL BALANCE'' WOULD THUS BE ESTABLISHED. THE SOVIET UNION WOULD DEMAND STRICT RECIPROCITY AND EQUALITY FROM THE US. IF THE US CONTINUED TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST SOVIET PERSONNEL ''ADEQUATE ADDITIONAL MEASURES'' WOULD BE TAKEN. GERASIMOV ENDED BY SAYING THAT THIS ''PROVOCATIVE STEP'' HAD BEEN TAKEN AT A MOMENT WHEN, AFTER REYKJAVIK, ''ENCOURAGING TENDENCIES'' WERE EMERGING IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, AND PROSPECTS OF AN IMPROVEMENT IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS AND FOR DECISIONS IN THE MAIN ISSUES OF NUCLEAR AND SPACE WEAPONS WERE IMPROVING. THOSE IN THE US WHO DID NOT WANT SUCH AN IMPROVEMENT HAD RESORTED TO THE TIME HONORED PLOY OF ''PROVOCATION AND POLITICAL SABOTAGE''.

CARTLEDGE

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