

CN 120

E/W - ZARAPKIN MEETS KIESINGER

BONN, SEPT. 2, REUTER - MR. SEMYON ZARAPKIN, SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN BONN, HAD A 90-MINUTE MEETING WITH WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR KURT-GEORG KIESINGER AT HIS OWN REQUEST TODAY TO DISCUSS RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR COUNTRIES.

ASKED WHETHER THE SITUATION HAD IMPROVED, HERR CONRAD AHLERS, DEPUTY GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER THE MEETING: "EVERYONE KNOWS THAT SOVIET-GERMAN RELATIONS ARE TENSE."

THE TWO MEN PUT THEIR VIEWS AT LENGTH AND THE AMBASSADOR LEFT A PAPER WITH THE CHANCELLOR WHICH, HERR AHLERS SAID, "I WOULD NOT DESCRIBE AS A NOTE".

THE SPOKESMAN, WHO REFUSED TO GIVE DETAILS OF THE TALKS, WAS ASKED WHETHER THE CHANCELLOR WAS MORE OPTIMISTIC OR PESSIMISTIC AFTER THE VISIT.

"THE CHANCELLOR IS REALIST ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO EVALUATE THE SITUATION WITHOUT NEEDING A VISIT BY THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR," HERR AHLERS SAID.

NEITHER THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS NOR SOVIET PRESS ATTACKS ON THE CHANCELLOR WERE DISCUSSED, HE ADDED.

ONE SOVIET ATTACK HAD COMMENTED THAT A RECENT TELEVISION INTERVIEW BY THE CHANCELLOR COULD BE SEEN AS A DECLARATION OF WAR ON THE SOVIET UNION.

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