

CN 176

E/W - JOHNSON STILL HOPING FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS TALKS

AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEPT 3, REUTER - PRESIDENT JOHNSON STILL HOPES TO START TALKS WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON CONTROLLING AND LIMITING STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS DESPITE THE UNSETTLED ATMOSPHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE, THE WHITE HOUSE SAID TODAY.

MR B JOHNSON PLANS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON TOMORROW AFTER SPENDING NEARLY ALL OF AUGUST ON A WORKING HOLIDAY AT THE LBJ RANCH NEAR HERE.

PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN GEORGE CHRISTIAN SAID MR JOHNSONS TOP ADVISERS IN WASHINGTON GAVE HIM THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION ON THE EASTERN EUROPEAN SITUATION BY TELEPHONE THIS MORNING.

MR CHRISTIAN WOULD NOT ELEBORATE ON THESE TELEPHONE CALLS, HE ALSO DECLINED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS QUOTING WASHINGTON SOURCES AS SAYING THE ADMINISTRATIONS FEARS OF A RUSSIAN INVASION OF RUMANIA HAD EASED.

BUT HE SAID IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS STILL EAGER TO SEE MISSILE TALKS STARTED WITH MOSCOW.

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