

CN 177

X/13 E/W -1ST ADD BRANDT: STILL READY TO TALK TO MOSCOW (CN 176)

XXX 1964

HE SAID DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE UNAVOIDABLE IN THE SOVIET UNION ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE CONSEQUENCES -" FOR EXAMPLE, MUST THE QUESTION OF CO-EXISTENCE WITH THE US BE CARRIED OUT UNDER SUCH A HEAVY BUFDEN?"

HOWEVER, BRANDT EMPHASIZED THAT WEST GERMAN POLICY TOWARDS THE SOVIET UNION WAS NOT BASED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF LEADERSHIP CHANGES IN MOSCOW. "WE BELIEVE IN THE CREATION OF OPINION IN THE SOVIET UNION," HE SAID.

THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT NATO WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSOLIDATED AS A RESULT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK EVENTS. "THE DANGER HAS NOT SIMPLY INCREASED BUT THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED," HE SAID. "THE SOVIETS STAND ELSEWHERE THAN THEY DID BEFORE."

HE WELCOMED THE US DECISION TO STOP TROOP REDUCTIONS IN EUROPE.

BRANDT REITERATED TONIGHT THAT HE HAD NEVER MET CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK, EITHER IN VIENNA OR ANYWHERE ELSE IN HIS LIFE. THE EAST GERMAN NEWS AGENCY ADN HAD ALLEDGED THAT THERE WAS A SECRETE MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS IN VIENNA O JUNE 10.

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