INFORMATION

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET

Thursday, July 25, 1968
7:05 p.m.

Mr. President:

Herewith Nat Davis' Czech
situation report as of 5:00 p.m.

W. W. Rostow

TOP SECRET

THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA
July 25, 1968 - 5:00 p.m.

Information on the expected Politburo-Presidium meeting is conflicting and sparse. There are unconfirmed reports that Brezhnev is visiting Warsaw and Berlin in preparation for it. Kosygin and Podgorny are in Moscow. Dubcek is in Prague. The most frequent rumors are that the meeting will come early next week -- but they are not confirmed.

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(S)

We have reports of troop movements in East Germany toward the Czechoslovak border. _____
silence. Soviet Sky Shield exercises announced today are described as covering "a considerable territory" and involving "various branches of the service." Reportedly the maneuvers announced earlier in Western Russia will involve the call-up of some reservists and the diversion of some civilian transport. (The press has speculated that the harvest may be interferred with -- but our experts say this is unlikely.) Evidence is lacking of any Polish or East German mobilization. Some Soviet troops apparently remain in Czechoslovakia.

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
EO 12958 3.4(b)(6)>25Yrs
(S)

Pravda today attacks both Mao's "splinter group" and "right wing revisionists", who wish to substitute "national variants" for Leninism. The article goes on to castigate Czech failure to act against "the forces of counter-revolution."

The FBI reports the American Communist Party (and presumably all other National Communist Parties) have received a Soviet appeal to endorse the Warsaw letter of the Five. The response is likely to be disappointing.

Nathaniel Davis