

138 29/14/6
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15 JUN 1966

BONN

BRITISH EMBASSY BONN

INCOMING CONFIDENTIAL TELEGRAM

CYPHER/OTP

FOREIGN OFFICE TO BONN NO. 1678

DATED: 14 JUNE, 1966.

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IMMEDIATECONFIDENTIAL

Repeated for information Immediate to: Berlin

Routine to: CICC(G)
Moscow
Washington

Crashed Soviet aircraft.

Soviet Ambassador made following oral statement today to Mr. Padley.

Begins.

The Soviet Embassy in its Note of April 8, 1966 drew the attention of the British Foreign Office to the unjustifiable actions of the British Occupation Authorities in West Berlin in connection with the crash of a Soviet military aircraft which fell in the British Sector of this city on April 6.

The British side has not yet replied to this Note and in fact has taken an unseemly position with regard to the settlement of the problems connected with this accident.

The inspection of the crashed aircraft carried out by Soviet experts after its return has revealed the absence of a number of items and parts which had obviously been dismantled. This is indicated by the fact that the locations of their mountings are intact, and also by the existence of cut cables leading to the above mentioned apparatus. The appropriate proof can be presented to the British side if necessary. The removal of the said equipment could not have been carried out without the knowledge of the British Occupation Authorities who placed a guard around the place of the crash and carried out the salvage operations.

In connexion with the above the Embassy has been authorized to make a protest and to insist on the complete return of the illegally retained Soviet State property. The actions of the British Occupation Authorities with regard to the Soviet military aircraft which crashed during a normal flight over West Berlin are contrary to the generally accepted norms of relations between States and to the interest of normal international intercourse.

Ends.

INDEX

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002 #/6