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Series: USSR Chronological Files
Subseries: Soviet Power Collapse in Eastern Europe Files

OA/ID Number: 91124
Folder ID Number: 91124-006

Folder Title:
Soviet Power Collapse in Eastern Europe (August 1989)

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Memo	J. Stapleton Roy to Brent Scowcroft Re: Presidential Statement on the Anniversary of the Berlin Wall (1 pp.)	8/2/89	(b)(1)	C

Page 1 of 1

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Scowcroft, Brent, Files
Series: USSR Chronological Files
Subseries: Soviet Power Collapse in Eastern Europe Files
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Soviet Power Collapse in Eastern Europe (August 1989)

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OA/ID Number: 91124-006
Date Closed: 3/18/2009
FOIA/Sys Case #: 2009-0275-S
Re-review Case #:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:

CHRON FILENATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

August 12, 1989



MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES W. CICCONE

FROM:

G. PHILIP HUGHES

SUBJECT:

Presidential Statement on the Anniversary of the
Berlin Wall*Jim. The provided changes are Brent's*
Philip

Attached at Tab A is a proposed Presidential Statement marking the twenty-eighth anniversary of the Berlin Wall on August 13. It echoes the tone of the President's remarks in Mainz and reiterates U.S. support for the Western initiative on Berlin. We recommend that the statement be released on Friday, August 11.

Attachment

Tab A Proposed Presidential Statement

cc: Marlin Fitzwater
Roman Popadiuk

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Twenty-eight years ago, [in the dark of an August 13 night] a [cold] barrier of steel and stone was erected in the heart of Berlin. It stands there still -- now more than ever a relic of a bygone era and a failed philosophy.

The barbed wire that severed a great city also proclaimed in stark, inhuman terms the unnatural division of Europe. Beyond its tragic human cost over the years, rending families and friends, the Berlin Wall has affronted the free world with an alien vision of closed societies where basic freedoms are denied.

~~History has a way of righting itself. The powerful idea of liberty -- the right of people to choose their future freely and without fear -- now has begun to erode the Wall's foundation. Some wish to pretend that the Wall is necessary. In truth, it is built upon a mistaken view of the human spirit and must come down.~~

West

The courageous people of Berlin tend the precious fire of freedom as an example for us all. The city prospers and benefits from their innovative spirit and from expanding international ties. *It's* ~~The~~ cultural diversity, economic vigor and political pluralism [of the Western Sectors] are the fruits of boundless imagination at work in a democratic community. The United States is proud to have contributed to Berlin's freedom and vitality. We remain firm in our commitment to assure the city's security and well-being. In a year which marks the 40th anniversary of the Airlift, such historic bonds between Americans and Berliners carry special meaning.

The United States is also committed to improving the lives of Berliners and to bringing closer the day when the city is again united. Together with our British and French allies, we have put forward an initiative to make such progress a reality. We want Berlin to enjoy greater access to the world through expanded air links, to be a center of international meetings and sports events and to foster more human contacts which lead to better understanding. As I said in Mainz on May 31, we want Berlin to be a place of cooperation, not a point of confrontation. We have asked the Soviet Union, as part of its four-power responsibilities for Berlin, to join us in achieving these goals. We still await what we hope will be a positive response.

inevitably

We observe this sad anniversary with renewed determination to overcome the division of Berlin and of Europe. On behalf of the people of the United States, I reaffirm this nation's commitment to Berlin's freedom and prosperity. The tide of history has turned, and we look to a future Europe whole and free. As we now [somerly] mark the day the Wall was built, so shall we celebrate a day when it no longer divides Berlin, the German people, and the nations of Europe.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

August 9, 1989

SIGNED

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

THROUGH: ADRIAN A. BASORA (ACTING) *AAB*
FROM: ROBERT L. HUTCHINGS *RH*
SUBJECT: Statement on Berlin Wall Anniversary

At Tab I is a memorandum from Philip Hughes to Jim Cicconi forwarding a proposed Presidential statement (Tab A) on the anniversary of the Berlin Wall. The statement, which we have edited from State's draft, echoes the President's Mainz speech, looking ahead to Berlin's future as well as recalling its past.

CR
Condi Rice concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

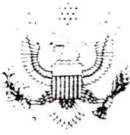
That you authorize Philip Hughes to sign the Tab I memorandum to Cicconi.

Approve *B*

as amended
Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum from Hughes to Cicconi
Tab A Proposed Presidential Statement
Tab II State Incoming



August 2, 1989

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Presidential Statement on the Anniversary of the
Berlin Wall

The Department recommends that the White House issue a statement on the August 13 anniversary of the construction of the Berlin Wall. A suggested text is attached.

In his May 31 speech in Mainz, the President stated emphatically that the Wall "must come down." "Nowhere," he said, "is the division between East and West seen more clearly than in Berlin."

Moreover, one of the four proposals the President made to help Europe become whole and free centered on Berlin. In the Mainz speech the President gave a ringing endorsement of the Allied Berlin Initiative, a four-part agenda designed to make the divided city "a place of cooperation, not a point of confrontation."

The twenty-eighth anniversary of the Wall offers a timely opportunity for a public reaffirmation of the President's views on Berlin in support of U.S. policy toward the city.


J. Stapleton Roy
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

1. Draft Presidential Statement
2. Draft Cable

DECLASSIFIED

PER DOS WAIVER, November 6, 2015

By SS NARA, Date 2/26/24

CONFIDENTIAL
DECL: OADR

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Department of State Guidelines
E.O. 13526, SEC 3.4 (b), July 21, 1997
By cap NARA, Date 1/10/2022

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Suggested Statement

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN WALL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Twenty-eight years ago, in the dark of an August 13 night, a cold barrier of steel and stone was erected in the heart of Berlin. Those who raised the Berlin Wall hid under the shroud of darkness, ashamed of their cruel work. As we honor those who have been killed in the Wall's shadow attempting to reach free soil, we remember vividly why it is rightly called the wall of shame.

The barbed wire that severed a great city also proclaimed in stark, inhuman terms the unnatural division of Europe. Beyond its tragic human cost over the years, rending families and friends, the Berlin Wall has affronted the free world with an alien vision of closed societies where basic freedoms are denied.

History has a way of righting itself. As water wears away stone, powerful ideas of liberty -- the right of people to choose their future freely and without fear -- now have begun to erode the impoverished philosophy which built the Wall. This anachronism, communism's dishonor, truly rests on sand.

Some wish to pretend that the Wall is necessary. In truth, it is built upon a mistaken view of the human spirit and must come down.

The courageous people of Berlin tend the precious fire of freedom as an example for us all. The city prospers and benefits from their innovative spirit and from ever-expanding international ties. The cultural diversity, economic vigor and political pluralism of the Western Sectors are the fruits of boundless imagination at work in a democratic community. The United States is proud to have contributed to Berlin's freedom and vitality. We remain firm in our commitment to assure the city's security and well-being. In a year which marks the 40th anniversary of the Airlift, such historic bonds between Americans and Berliners carry special meaning.

Our words must be translated into deeds -- practical steps which improve the lives of Berliners and bring closer the day when the city is again united. The United States, with its British and French allies, has put forward an initiative to make such progress a reality. We want Berlin to enjoy greater access to the world through expanded air links, to be a center of international meetings and sports events and to foster more human contacts which lead to better understanding. We have

asked the Soviet Union, as part of its four-power responsibilities for Berlin, to join us in achieving these worthy goals. We still await what we hope will be a positive response.

We observe this sad anniversary with renewed determination to overcome the division of Berlin and of Europe. On behalf of the people of the United States, I reaffirm this nation's commitment to Berlin's freedom and prosperity. The tide of history has turned, and we look to a future Europe whole and free. As we now somberly mark the day the Wall was built, so shall we celebrate a day when it no longer divides Berlin, the German people, and the nations of Europe.

UNCLASSIFIED

EUR/CE:F FOULGER:CBS
07/27/89 647-2005
EUR:R R JOHNSON

EUR/CE:P SHOSTAL, EUR/CE:C B SKINNER, P:A WOLFF, PA:R BOUCHER,
S/P:R GEORGE, NSCS: , S/S:

EUR/CE

IMMEDIATE BONN, USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY EMBBERLIN, MOSCOW PRIORITY, LONDON, PARIS, USNATO,
FRANKFURT, HAMBURG, MUNICH, STUTTGART

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL, BZ, GE, UR, GC, BQG

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BERLIN WALL

THE WHITE HOUSE ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 11 RELEASED THE
FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BERLIN WALL. MISSION BERLIN MAY PROVIDE ADVANCE COPY OF
THE TEXT TO THE BERLIN SENAT AND THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
MAY DISTRIBUTE COPIES TO THE BONN GROUP. AT POSTS'
DISCRETION, TEXT ALSO MAY BE PROVIDED TO THE MEDIA AFTER
NOON WASHINGTON TIME.

BEGIN TEXT:

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN WALL

TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO, IN THE DARK OF AN AUGUST 13 NIGHT,

RRJ
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PS
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AW
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RG

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A COLD BARRIER OF STEEL AND STONE WAS ERECTED IN THE HEART OF BERLIN. THOSE WHO RAISED THE BERLIN WALL HID UNDER THE SHROUD OF DARKNESS, ASHAMED OF THEIR CRUEL WORK. AS WE HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE WALL'S SHADOW ATTEMPTING TO REACH FREE SOIL, WE REMEMBER VIVIDLY WHY IT IS RIGHTLY CALLED THE WALL OF SHAME.

THE BARBED WIRE THAT SEVERED A GREAT CITY ALSO PROCLAIMED IN STARK, INHUMAN TERMS THE UNNATURAL DIVISION OF EUROPE. BEYOND ITS TRAGIC HUMAN COST OVER THE YEARS, RENDING FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, THE BERLIN WALL HAS AFFRONTED THE FREE WORLD WITH AN ALIEN VISION OF CLOSED SOCIETIES WHERE BASIC FREEDOMS ARE DENIED.

HISTORY HAS A WAY OF RIGHTING ITSELF. AS WATER WEARS AWAY STONE, POWERFUL IDEAS OF LIBERTY -- THE RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO CHOOSE THEIR FUTURE FREELY AND WITHOUT FEAR -- NOW HAVE BEGUN TO ERODE THE IMPOVERISHED PHILOSOPHY WHICH BUILT THE WALL. THIS ANACHRONISM, COMMUNISM'S DISHONOR, TRULY RESTS ON SAND. SOME WISH TO PRETEND THAT THE WALL IS NECESSARY. IN TRUTH, IT IS BUILT UPON A MISTAKEN VIEW OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT AND MUST COME DOWN.

THE COURAGEOUS PEOPLE OF BERLIN TEND THE PRECIOUS FIRE OF FREEDOM AS AN EXAMPLE FOR US ALL. THE CITY PROSPERS AND BENEFITS FROM THEIR INNOVATIVE SPIRIT AND FROM EVER-EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL TIES. THE CULTURAL DIVERSITY, ECONOMIC VIGOR AND POLITICAL PLURALISM OF THE WESTERN SECTORS ARE THE FRUITS OF BOUNDLESS IMAGINATION AT WORK IN A DEMOCRATIC COMMUNITY. THE UNITED STATES IS PROUD TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO BERLIN'S FREEDOM AND VITALITY. WE REMAIN FIRM IN OUR COMMITMENT TO ASSURE THE CITY'S SECURITY AND WELL-BEING. IN A YEAR WHICH MARKS THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AIRLIFT, SUCH HISTORIC BONDS BETWEEN AMERICANS AND BERLINERS CARRY SPECIAL MEANING.

OUR WORDS MUST BE TRANSLATED INTO DEEDS -- PRACTICAL STEPS WHICH IMPROVE THE LIVES OF BERLINERS AND BRING CLOSER THE DAY WHEN THE CITY IS AGAIN UNITED. THE UNITED STATES, WITH ITS BRITISH AND FRENCH ALLIES, HAS PUT FORWARD AN INITIATIVE TO MAKE SUCH PROGRESS A REALITY. WE WANT BERLIN TO ENJOY GREATER ACCESS TO THE WORLD THROUGH EXPANDED AIR LINKS, TO BE A CENTER OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND SPORTS EVENTS AND TO FOSTER MORE HUMAN CONTACTS WHICH LEAD TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING. WE HAVE ASKED THE SOVIET UNION, AS PART OF ITS FOUR-POWER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BERLIN, TO JOIN US IN ACHIEVING THESE WORTHY GOALS. WE STILL AWAIT WHAT WE HOPE WILL BE A POSITIVE RESPONSE.

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