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INFORMATION

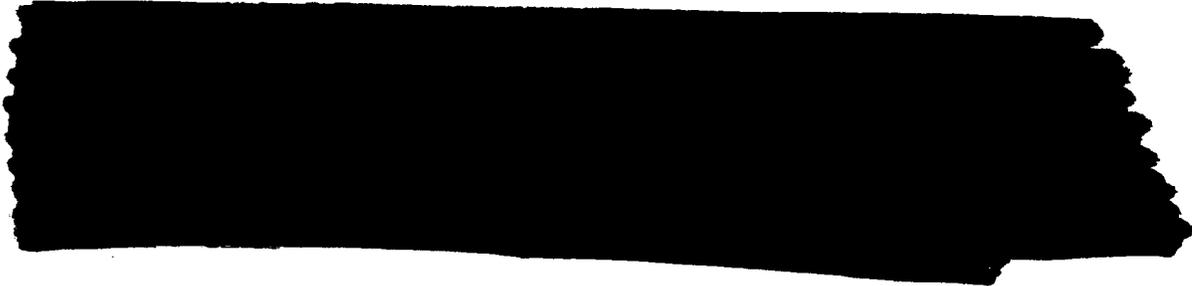
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: The Situation in Czechoslovakia as of 4:00 p.m. EDT

The confrontation between Czechoslovak and Soviet leaders opened this morning at nine (Czech time) in Cierna nad Tisou (which contrary to AP does not mean "Glassboro") in southeastern Slovakia, just inside the border. All but two of the Soviet politburo -- Kirilonko and Polyanaky, who are tending the store in Moscow -- are participating. The Czechoslovak delegation includes all the presidium members, plus President Svoboda.

There has been no word from the meeting, and the Czechoslovak News Agency does not expect any until late tonight or tomorrow morning.

Although polemics on both sides were toned down somewhat for the occasion, the Czechoslovaks are under immense Soviet psychological-military pressure.



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