reian Service of the United States of America

INCOMING

AMERICAN EMBASSY PARIS



SECRET

Classification

Control: 1405

Reed: oct 11, 1961 10:35PM

ACTION:

FROM: BERLIN

POL-5 INFO:

NO 516, Oct 11 6 PM

AMB MIN

PRIORITY

MINECON ULLERY STORSSEL

ACTION DEPT PRITY 727 BONN PRITY 646 PARIS PRITY 516 INFO LONDON 478 MOSCOW 455 POLAD USAREUR 391

SHAPEL-1 EUCOML-1

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, STOESSEL AND MCGUIRE

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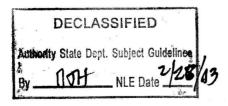
ACTION: POL-5

REF PARIS 1947 DEPT, 121 BERLIN, 206 BONN, MY 674 DEPT, 595 BONN ONLY; OUR 684 DEPT, 606 BONN, 481 PARIS.

INFO: OES-5 ECON-1 DEF-4

I realize fully problems involved in reconsidering instructions on Friedrichstrasse crossing and regret necessity for asking earliest possible decision. I do not believe closing likely to take place in near future but still it could take place tomorrow. This crossing is in our sector and the full public responsibility for whatever actions are taken will rest on our shoulders. I am even more convinced now that failure to act strongly and immediately would be most damging and widely interpreted as appeasement. It could stimulate a heavy movement of West Berliners into West Germany. I am convinced that our minimum action must be to knock down a heavy barricade and place our tanks in position on the East Berlin side of the entrance and that this action should be taken with minimum delay to be effective. I urge that Eerlin Commandant be given this authority soonest.

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LIGHTNER

KERTULTIKA TIM 1185 (OP) E

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