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JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE

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Proposed text of Edd Man Zakbarov letter

OSD ARMY NAVY

QUOTE I have noted with deep consern developments of last several days involving flagrant violations of spirit and letter of Huebner-Malinin Agreement

AIR of April 5, 1947 on part of GSFG. RMR

Specifically these developments are, in sequence in which they happened:

- (1) Issuance January 27 by your SERB of maps delineating new permanent restricted areas of Soviet Zone closed to members of USMLM. This action contradicts express provisions for freedom of travel for members of USMLM contained in paragraph 10 of Huebner-Malinin Agreement.
- (2) Beginning January 29, members of USMLM were provided with new passes ostensibly in replacement of passes, validity of which would have expired only on February 15. New passes have been deliberately altered from passes previously supplied to make a political point. In particular, Soviet insignia has been removed

M - Mr. Merchant 2-5-60 Telegraphic transmission and EUR: GER: AGVigderman: JHMcFarland, Jr: eaw

GER - Mr. Hillenbrand

Defense/JCS - Col. Billingslea L/EUR =

EUR - Mr. Kohler

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By DOH

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Mr. Calhoun

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NLE Date

Page____of telegram to_

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removed from new pass; on page three of pass, new language has been inserted to effect that QUOTE Personal Identification Number _____ is registered with Interior Ministry of GDR; UNQUOTE part of text on back of pass has been altered to read QUOTE Identification, which has been registered with Interior Ministry of GDR, gives right of movement to members of Mission in territory of GDR, except for restricted areas.UNQUOTE This language has been substituted for previous language which provided that identification QUOTE gives right of free movement to officers of Mission in Soviet Zone. UNQUOTE

It is perfectly clear that change in style and language of pass injects new and wholly extraneous element into existing relationships between our commands, in order to serve purely political purposes of Soviet Union. Instead of simply renewing validity of passes which were due to expire on February 15, your command apparently has chosen deliberately to impose political conditions on continued functioning of Western Liaison Missions. Function of Missions has nothing to do with regime set up in Soviet Zone nor has that regime anything to do with function of Missions. Registration of identification of members of USMLM with that regime is an irrelevant act, performed unilaterally by GSFG without our authority and without our consent.

Description of right of movement of members of Mission QUOTE in territory of GDR, UNQUOTE territory described as Soviet Zone in old pass, has a transparently political purpose. You and I are well aware of long history of difference between our two Governments on nature of regime which is operating in Soviet Zone of Germany. I must vigorously protest this transparent effort to subvert relationships between our two commands for purely political purposes.

(3) As

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(3) As a further demonstration of deliberately provocative character of change in form of passes, USMLM was informed on January 30, that effective within 24 hours old passes had been declared invalid by order of GSFG, despite fact that it is expressly stated in old passes that expiration date is February 15, 1960.

By your action you are in effect depriving Mission of any right of movement in violation of Emebner-Malinin Agreement. Since new passes are unacceptable, I have directed that they not be used. I vigorously protest injection of extraneous political issues into simple question of renewal of a pass. I call on you to revalidate existing passes and to withdraw new passes. UNQUOTE.

HERTER