

July 25, 1994

**'Cable, US Embassy Bangkok to Secretary of State,
Deputy Secretary July 24 Bilateral with FM Kozyrev'**

Citation:

"Cable, US Embassy Bangkok to Secretary of State, 'Deputy Secretary July 24 Bilateral with FM Kozyrev'", July 25, 1994, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Case Number F-2017-13804, Doc No. C06695412, US Department of State Virtual Reading Room. <https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/301546>

Summary:

This document records a July 24, 1994, meeting in Bangkok between US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev. The two discussed urgent international issues, including the Bosnia peace process, troop withdrawals from Estonia, Russian military pensioners' rights, and Haiti. Talbott emphasized US expectations for Russian compliance with the August 31 deadline for troop withdrawal from Estonia and highlighted the broader impact on US-Russia relations.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK 25937

NODIS DECAPIONED

USDEL DEPUTY SECRETARY IN BANGKOK //DEPTO 50001//

S/S-0 PLEASE REPEAT TO MOSCOW, TALINN, BOSNIA ADDRESSEES,
PORT-AU-PRINCE, AND USUN NEW YORK

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: OVIP (TALBOTT, STROBE)
SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY JULY 24 BILATERAL WITH FM

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KOZYREV

Declassification Authority: Geoffrey W. Chapman, Senior
Reviewer, A/GIS/IPS 5/15/2019

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY

2. IN A 50 MINUTE MEETING WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY TALBOTT,
RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KOZYREV:

-- AGREED THE MOSCOW MEETING OF THE CONTACT GROUP MUST
COME UP WITH A STRONG, UNIFIED POSITION ON THE BOSNIAN SERB
RESPONSE TO THE MAP, BUT OBJECTED STRENUOUSLY TO LINKING
BOSNIA SANCTIONS TO A SETTLEMENT IN KRAJINA.

-- EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE PESSIMISM ABOUT THE JULY 26
YELTSIN/MERI SUMMIT: MERI IS TOO WEAK TO "DELIVER" ON
MILITARY PENSIONERS AND YELTSIN CANNOT APPEAR TO "SELL OUT"
RUSSIANS ABROAD.

-- NOTED HE MAY TAKE FLACK FROM THE DUMA FOR SUPPORTING
A HAITI RESOLUTION THAT INCLUDES A UN ASSESSMENT FOR UNMIH
SINCE "NO ONE IS HELPING US PAY FOR OUR BORDER PROBLEMS."

3. ON BOSNIA, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY URGED KOZYREV TO BE
FLEXIBLE REGARDING SANCTIONS, NOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF
MAINTAINING MAXIMUM LEVERAGE TO GET A SETTLEMENT IN
KRAJINA. ON ESTONIA, HE BORE DOWN VERY HARD ON KOZYREV
REGARDING PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PERSONAL INVESTMENT IN A
SETTLEMENT AND THE INTERNATIONAL COSTS TO RUSSIA OF MISSING
THE AUGUST 31 DEADLINE. END SUMMARY.

BOSNIA

4. DEPUTY SECRETARY TALBOTT BEGAN BY EXPRESSING THE
SECRETARY'S REGRET THAT HE AND KOZYREV ENDED UP ON

S-T-D-O-N S-T-D-O-N



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FOR YELTSIN'S FAMOUS "NYET" AT THE NAPLES PRESS CONFERENCE. KOZYREV CREDITED U.S. EFFORTS TO HELP SETTLE THE ESTONIA ISSUE, BUT SAID THE U.S. GETS NO CREDIT WITH THE RUSSIAN PUBLIC BECAUSE OUR WORK IS BEHIND THE SCENES. ALL THEY SEE IS THE MCCONNELL AMENDMENT. "IT IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT FOR ME NOT TO LOSE THE BATTLE FOR PUBLIC OPINION," HE SAID. KOZYREV ALSO WORRIED THAT THE LATVIAN PARLIAMENT WOULD NOT RATIFY ITS AGREEMENT WITH RUSSIA ON TROOP WITHDRAWALS UNTIL IT WAS SURE THE ESTONIANS DID NOT GET A BETTER DEAL. "IF WE CAN'T GET A GOOD SETTLEMENTS FOR ETHNIC RUSSIANS IN THE 'CIVILIZED' BALTICS," HE CONTINUED, "IMAGINE WHAT THE PROSPECTS ARE IN OTHER REPUBLICS." TALBOTT CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION BY RECALLING AN IRONY OF THE COLD WAR: HAWKS ON BOTH SIDES FED OFF EACH OTHER. HE URGED THAT KOZYREV NOT ALLOW THIS CYCLE TO PREVAIL NOW. HE WARNED THAT RUSSIA'S FAILURE TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS BY THE AUGUST 31 DEADLINE WOULD INFLICT SEVERE DAMAGE ON U.S.-RUSSIAN RELATIONS AND CAST A SHADOW OVER THE SEPTEMBER SUMMIT.

HAITI

8. BEFORE THE MEETING BROKE UP, TALBOTT NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT AND AMBASSADOR VORONTSOV HAVE BEEN DOING GOOD WORK ON HAITI IN NEW YORK AND THE U.S. HOPES TO TABLE A DRAFT RESOLUTION EARLY NEXT WEEK. KOZYREV LEANED FORWARD AND WHISPERED: "TELL ME, ARE YOU GOING TO INVADE?" TALBOTT RESPONDED THAT THE CHANCES OF EITHER A U.S. UNILATERAL OR A MULTILATERAL INVASION WILL BE GREATLY REDUCED IF WE PASS A RESOLUTION NEXT WEEK AUTHORIZING "ALL NECESSARY MEANS," THEREBY CREATING A CREDIBLE INTERNATIONAL THREAT. KOZYREV SAID HE EXPECTS TO TAKE SOME HEAT IN THE DUMA WHEN RUSSIA SUPPORTS A RESOLUTION REQUIRING UN ASSESSMENTS TO PAY FOR UNMIH. AFTER ALL, HE SAID, NO ONE IS OFFERING TO HELP US PAY FOR OUR PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS (I.E. GEORGIA).

9. KOZYREV WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR ADVISOR GALINA SIDEROVA AND A NOTETAKER FROM THE MFA'S USA AND CANADA DEPARTMENT. TALBOTT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY D EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT NULAND.

TALBOTT

~~SECRET~~

FOON-SSNOZ-SS