

November 9, 1956

Department of State, Incoming Telegram No. 1130

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Summary:

Text of a personal note sent by Ambassador Bohlen to Foreign Affairs Minister Gromyko regarding an American citizen being detained in Hungary.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1130, NOVEMBER 9, NOON

NIACT

SENT DEPARTMENT NIACT 1130, REPEATED INFORMATION NIACT LONDON 242
BUDAPEST NIACT 26, MUNICH NIACT 6

EMBASSY TELEGRAM 1129.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER I SENT THIS MORNING TO GROMYKO.

AS INSTRUCTED AM SENDING COPIES WITH PARAPHRASE SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION REFTEL TO BRITISH AND AUSTRIAN MISSIONS HERE.

BEGIN TEXT

"DEAR MR. GROMYKO: IN VIEW OF THE URGENCY OF THE
MATTER I AM ADDRESSING THIS REQUEST TO YOU DIRECTLY RATHER
THAN SENDING IT BY FORMAL NOTE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM
MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRIAN CARITAS AND RED CROSS CONVOY, WHICH
ARRIVED FROM BUDAPEST IN VIENNA ON NOVEMBER 6, 1956, WHO
IN TURN RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION FROM SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES
IN HUNGARY, THAT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, FREDERICK LORENZ
HIER, WHO IS BEARER OF AMERICAN PASSPORT NO. 671 DATED
MAY 8, 1953 ISSUED AT SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, WAS DETAINED AND
HELD IN CONFINEMENT AT GYOR, HUNGARY BY MILITARY AUTHORITIES
OF THE SOVIET UNION. JOURNALISTS AND OTHERS WHO HAVE LEFT
HUNGARY HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED THIS INFORMATION.

"I AM REQUESTED BY MY GOVERNMENT TO URGE THAT THE CIRCUM-
STANCES OF MR. HIER'S ARREST BE INVESTIGATED BY THE SOVIET

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204.1111-HIER, FREDERICK LORENZ/HIER-956 HBS
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-2- 1130, NOVEMBER 9, NOON FROM MOSCOW

GOVERNMENT AND THAT THE NECESSARY STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO ENSURE HIS RELEASE FROM DETENTION AND TO PERMIT HIS DEPARTURE FROM HUNGARY.

"I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR LETTING ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THAT MEASURES BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THIS MATTER.

SINCERELY YOURS, SIGNED CHARLES E. BOHLEN."

END TEXT.

BOHLEN

CRH