

Document 11.

October 3, 1989, 17:40, Prague – GDR Ambassador Helmut Ziebart to the GDR Foreign Ministry and the SED Central Committee, conveying a plea by the CPCz leadership and the CSSR Government to have some understanding for Czechoslovakia's difficult situation resulting from the mass influx of GDR citizens; expressing the CSSR Government's thanks for finding a solution; and informing the GDR Foreign Ministry of the Czechoslovak intention to stand behind the GDR position.

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Translation by Todd Hammond.

On October 3 at 14:15, acting foreign minister Pavel Sadovský invited me for an official interview at the ministry of foreign affairs. In the presence of department heads Kadnár (Western Europe) and Větrovec, he said the following:

1. The leadership of the Party and government of the CSSR ask the GDR to understand the difficult situation the finds itself in as a result of the mass influx of citizens of the GDR headed towards the embassy of the FRG. At 14:00 there were 4500 persons present at the embassy, and some 2000 outside in front of it. According to information from the Czechoslovak security organs there are another 4000 persons currently in the CSSR. Leading officials of the CSSR are concerned that there will be demonstrations in Prague that could be joined by dissidents, intellectuals, and youth. Mass demonstrations of that size could tempt the adversary to organize events according to the Beijing model.
2. The Czechoslovak leadership welcomes the decision of the GDR to address the problem and carry out a second mass transport according to the model of September 30. The Czechoslovak leadership will do all it can to support the operation.
3. Helmut Kohl requested a telephone conversation with Com. Adamec. The conversation is agreed for 17:00 h. Sadovský asked who from the GDR informed whom from the FRG, and when, about the mass transport; and what promises were made by the FRG (in this regard he said that because of Bonn's failure to keep its word on both the assurances it made on September 30 – no more taking people in at the embassy, and no publicity – it would be good if assurances of this kind could be worked out or exchanged in writing).
4. The CSSR will, besides its commentary published in Rudé právo and the statement of the spokesman for the government of the CSSR of October 3, support the GDR on its principled stand, and during the next few days it will publish more articles in the press that will reveal the goals of Bonn's actions, and declare its solidarity with the GDR.

*Ziebart*