Box 8

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

ROUTING			
1	SR/CI	4	
2		5	
3		6	

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM :

ACTION: SR 7

INFO : CI/OPS, CI; CI/IC2, CI/RA, WE6, VR.

S E C R E T 211217Z

DIR INFO [ ] CITE [ ] 2622

REDWOOD

Info on time to process and issue Soviet transit Visa

24 JUL 64 IN 32639

REF A. DIR 36101

B. [ ] 5082 IN 32053

1. CLASTONBURY PHONED SOVIET CONSUL KARASEV WITH PURPORTED REQUEST FOR VISA ON BEHALF US BUSINESSMAN. KARASEV SAID HE COULD ISSUE TRANSIT VISA VALID FOR 24 HOURS WITHIN FIVE MINUTES OF APPLICATION FOR ANY STAY OVER 24 HOURS HE WOULD NEED ABOUT ONE WEEK PROCESS VISA AND HAVE INTOURIST GET LODGINGS. IMPLIED SCARCITY OF HOTEL SPACE WAS MAJOR FACTOR IN DELAY OF VISA ISSUANCE.

2. FINNISH TRAVEL AGENCY REP TOLD CLASTONBURY HE CAN MANAGE GET SOVIET TOURIST VISA FOR HIS CUSTOMERS IN FIVE DAYS "WITH SOME PUSHING ON HIS SIDE".

3. WE DID NOT DISCUSS AMBASSADORIAL INTERVENTION WITH KARASEV BUT BELIEVE IT MIGHT HAVE SOME EFFECT SHOULD OUR AMBASSADOR DIRECTLY

13-00000

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE | SECRET | IN 32639 PAGE 2

INTERCEDE WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR. HOWEVER LAST MAY VISA FOR PRIVATE

TRAVEL OF EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY TOOK TWO WEEKS THOUGH OUR EMBASSY

IN MOSCOW WAS INTERVENING WITH SOVIET FOREIGN OFFICE.

SECRET

SECRET