

Since the turn of the 1967/1968 the American administration was carefully monitoring the democratic process in Czechoslovakia. Despite rising interest it was clear from the start that Washington was unwilling to participate actively. Czechoslovakia was one of the main arms suppliers for the communist belligerents in the Vietnam conflict and for the ending Johnson administration the priority was a treaty with Soviet Union controlling the nuclear proliferation.

First analysis about a Sovietic military intervention in Czechoslovakia appear since May 1968. CIA was working with that possibility till July. Was it the political interest of peace between Washington and Moscow that hindered these analysis to be taken into account more seriously and to inform the highest representatives of the USA?

Indeed, it could have caused a diplomatic quarrel and freeze the anti-nuclear proliferation treaty negotiations. The decision of Moscow the 19. August 1968 of an armed intervention in Czechoslovakia was a surprise for the president Johnson, but not a surprise for the CIA.