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Warsaw Pact: The hastily arranged nature of the command-staff exercise about to begin in Czechoslovakia and Poland has been confirmed [redacted]

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[redacted] the exercise originally was scheduled for the fall but that the Pact command decided to hold it in June in view of the "situation" in Czechoslovakia. The part of the exercise taking place in Poland will involve the Soviet forces normally stationed there. One of these two divisions has taken up a position on the Czechoslovak border. A Soviet division that moved early last month from the USSR to south-central Poland also will take part.

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[redacted] no Soviet combat troops and no Polish forces of any kind will move into Czechoslovakia during the exercise. Soviet signal units will be used in Czechoslovakia to support Czechoslovak military units in the maintenance of communications with Pact forces outside the country.

[redacted] The Czechoslovak Defense Ministry has issued numerous press statements attempting to allay domestic fears that the USSR will use the exercise to cover military intervention. The vagueness of these statements, however, does not rule out the eventual participation of some Soviet combat troops. [redacted]

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