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Mandatory Review

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DIST 26 JULY 1968

COUNTRY USSR/CZECHOSLOVAKIA/POLAND

1.5(c); 3.4(b)(1)

DOI 24 JULY 1968

SUBJECT PREPARATIONS FOR MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

26 19 51 - JUL 68

ACQ [REDACTED]

FIELD NO. 1.5(c); 3.4(b)(1)

SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. THE USSR HAS DEPLOYED THE 32ND ARMY IN POLAND AS WELL AS LARGE FORCES IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF EAST GERMANY. GREAT PRESSURES ARE BEING EXERTED UPON POLAND TO PREPARE FOR AN INTERVENTION. THE FIVE DIVISIONS SUBORDINATE TO THE SILESIA MILITARY DISTRICT IN POLAND ARE IN A STATE OF READINESS.

2. PROPAGANDA IN POLAND IS POINTING TO A CZECHOSLOVAK THREAT AND TO THE NECESSITY OF AIDING THE "HEALTHY" FORCES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. PRESSURE FOR INTERVENTION IS BEING APPLIED BY POLISH POLITICAL ACTIVISTS, HEADED BY POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY (PZPR) FIRST

SECRETARY WLADYSLAW GOMULKA. POLISH MILITARY LEADERS HAVE REACTED

Approved for Release 15 JUL 1996
Date _____

1.5(c); 3.4(b)(1)

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[REDACTED]

(classification)

(dissem controls)

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1.5(c); 3.4(b)(1)

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1.5(c); 3.4(b)(1)

(classification)

(dissem controls)

TO THIS PRESSURE WITH SOME RESERVE. NONETHELESS, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF PZPR OFFICIALS AND THE USSR, PLANS FOR POLAND'S PARTICIPATION IN AN INTERVENTION HAVE BEEN PREPARED.

3. WEST GERMANY'S DECISION TO CHANGE THE SITE OF THE BLACK LION EXERCISES FROM A BAVARIAN REGION NEAR THE CZECHOSLOVAK FRONTIER TO THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF WEST GERMANY HAS CREATED AN AWKWARD SITUATION FOR THE PLANNERS OF THE INTERVENTION. A WEST GERMAN EXERCISE ALONG THE FRONTIER COULD HAVE SERVED AS A PRETEXT FOR THE INTERVENTION. IF IT SHOULD BECOME NECESSARY TO SEND FORCES INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND TO USE THEM TO SEAL THE WEST GERMAN BORDER, THIS WILL BE DONE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY (KSC) CONGRESS WHICH OPENS ON 9 SEPTEMBER. AN INTERVENTION WOULD BE NECESSARY IF THE ELECTION OF THE NEW KSC CENTRAL COMMITTEE DID NOT ACCORD WITH SOVIET WISHES.

4. THE POLISH POPULACE IS STRONGLY AGAINST THE ROLE BEING PLAYED BY THE POLISH LEADERS IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS. MANY LETTERS ARE BEING SENT FROM POLAND TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA REPORTING SOVIET TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN POLAND.

5. [REDACTED] DISSEM: NONE.

1.5(c); 3.4(b)(1)

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