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POLAND: Warsaw Pact Maneuvers

[REDACTED] there will be a major Warsaw Pact exercise in Poland next month. A Solidarity activist, meanwhile, believes there will be a "spring uprising" that the underground union will be unable to contain.

[REDACTED] there will be a Warsaw Pact exercise "involving Poland" in March and stated that the exercise would be announced in accordance with the Helsinki Accords. Notification of an exercise involving 25,000 troops must be given 21 days prior to the start of an exercise to comply with the agreements.

Last week, [REDACTED] alluded to a major military operation to be held in Poland on or after 15 March. He added that it would involve the Soviets, Poles, East Germans, and Czechoslovaks.

Comment: The [REDACTED] reports suggest that planning for a Warsaw Pact field training exercise in or near Poland next month is under way. The Soviets may believe such an exercise would underline Pact unity and signal a return to "normal" training activity as well as remind the Polish public of the possible consequences of further unrest in the spring.

The unusual "leak" of the exercise [REDACTED] suggests that Moscow is sensitive to a possible negative reaction by the West and probably will make an effort to depict the exercise as legitimate and nonthreatening.

Martial Law Activity

Components of at least six Polish divisions remain engaged in activities related to martial law, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Polish units that have returned to garrison have been conducting routine training activity. [REDACTED]

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Activist Predicts Resistance

[REDACTED] a Solidarity activist said that he expects increased worker resistance this spring because of the worsening economic situation and predicted that coal miners would lead the way. He doubts that Solidarity will have much influence on this increased unrest even though local union activists have established an underground organization and are urging restraint. He believes that there could be defections from the police--especially by newer working-class conscripts--despite their privileged position. [REDACTED]

The activist was released from internment early in January on the condition that he emigrate, but he is unaware of any senior officials in Solidarity who are planning to leave. [REDACTED]

Comment: Although the Solidarity activist has repeated what has become a widespread expectation of increased unrest in the spring, he is the first to suggest that some in the underground union are calling for restraint. His expectations of police defections are unrealistic. New recruits do not make up the core of the police or the security units that are carrying the brunt of martial law duty. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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