

*CRS - Mr. Eisenberg*

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**DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE**

*Soviet Developments*

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24 April 1972  
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~~TOP SECRET RUFF~~ [REDACTED] ~~UMBRA~~  
~~HANDLE VIA TALENT - KEYHOLE - COMINT CONTROL SYSTEMS JOINTLY~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
24 April 1972

SOVIET DEVELOPMENTS

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Soviet CINCPAC to Ceylon

Moscow has wasted little time testing Ceylonese "nonalignment" in the wake of Admiral McCain's recent visit to Colombo. The US military attaché there reports that the commander of the USSR's Pacific Fleet, Admiral Smirnov, will be visiting Ceylon from 29 April to 6 May. His trip will coincide with the first visit of Soviet warships to Ceylon since July 1968.

*C.N.I.*

Soviet officials in Colombo were extremely curious about Admiral McCain's "real" purpose in visiting Ceylon. Their questioning disclosed concern about some sort of US-Ceylonese understanding that would allow US naval vessels greater access to Ceylonese ports. The Soviets seemed particularly concerned that the US Navy would be allowed access to Trincomalee (reputed to be the best natural harbor in the Indian Ocean). Soviet fishing vessels were denied access to Trincomalee under the terms of the Soviet-Ceylonese fisheries accord that was signed last August, even though some Chinese merchant ships will be allowed to call there. [REDACTED]

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