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ANNEX A

Regime Concerns About Possible Social Instability

EO 12958 6.1(c)>10<25Yrs
(U)

Although there have been indications that the regime is most concerned about the adverse effect of popular dissatation on labor productivity, the regime is also increasingly worried about the possibility of social disturbances serious enough to produce challenges to political control. [REDACTED]

Rising concern by regime is apparent in the following:

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

- o In 1977 [REDACTED] Soviet leaders were "acutely aware" of countrywide criticism of food shortages. [REDACTED] the leadership feared that easing restrictions on dissidents could abet a trend of criticism in the country that could create an "explosive" climate. [REDACTED]

EO 12958 1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

✓

[REDACTED] last year complained that the more Moscow spends for defense, "the more restless the populace gets." [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

✓

[REDACTED] some Soviet military leaders are afraid there is no chance of putting increased pressure on the population to produce more at the expense of living standards. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] large scale discontent would have a catastrophic effect on the economy. [REDACTED]

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EO 12958 6.1(c)>10<25Yrs
(U)

Official unease about social problems is suggested in the party debate on "socialist contradictions" over the past couple of years. The debate has gained new momentum since February 1984. [REDACTED]

EO 12958 1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

[REDACTED] the economic and political situation in the USSR was not much better than that in Poland. [REDACTED] Soviet youth, in particular, were becoming increasingly apolitical, pacifist and interested only in themselves. [REDACTED]

EO 12958 1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
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Andropov and Chernenko have stated in public speeches that social problems, if unattended or mishandled, could spiral out of control and produce social "collisions" or political "crisis." [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
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Some officials [REDACTED] [REDACTED] have been concerned about the potential for widespread industrial unrest. [REDACTED]

EO 12958 6.1(c)>10<25Yrs
(U)

Recent speeches and articles by Soviet military leaders show unusual concern about pacifism among young people and about ethnic tensions in the armed forces. [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
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o A department head [REDACTED] expressed the opinion that the country was in a state of "economic, political, and ideological crisis."

EO 12958 1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
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o [REDACTED] there was a great deal of unrest in non-Russian republics. The Soviet population, [REDACTED] is disgusted, unhappy, indifferent, and inert. [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED] Soviet society faced a major crisis in discipline, reflected in labor problems, crime, and friction between nationalities. [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(C)

o [REDACTED] the Soviet population was becoming more demanding because of exposure to Western imports. [REDACTED]

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1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED] he saw a "very real" possibility of unrest among the Soviet population. [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED]
o The Polish situation reportedly caused great nervousness in high party and government circles in Estonia, where strikes and student demonstrations took place in the fall of 1980. [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED]

o Speeches at a major ideological conference held in Moscow in 1981 indicated that the Polish situation was being discussed as an object lesson for the Soviet Union. [REDACTED]

EO 12958 1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED] Soviet leaders feared developments similar to those in Poland could occur in the Soviet Union. [REDACTED] sporadic strikes over food shortages had demonstrated to the leadership that an internal threat existed. [REDACTED]

EO 12958
1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED]

EO 12958 1.6(d)(1)>10<25Yrs
(S)

o [REDACTED]