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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

EO 12958 6.1(c)>25Yrs

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: MAY 2002

25 July 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence,  
SUBJECT : Acquisition of Soviet Technical  
Manuals for the MIG-21PFM Aircraft

1. I wish to inform you that the Clandestine Service has just acquired three Soviet technical manuals for the MIG-21PFM [FISHBED F] interceptor. These manuals are the first documentary data to be acquired on this most recently deployed version of the MIG-21. The manuals cover performance characteristics, tactics, and maintenance.

2. The MIG-21PFM is a further development and improvement of the MIG-21FL (modified FISHBED D), for which the Clandestine Service obtained manuals previously. The MIG-21PFM is now the main production model of this widely deployed fighter, which is operational or becoming operational in North Vietnam, North Korea, Cuba, Afghanistan, India, the UAR, and other countries. This version is now the most modern interceptor available to the air defense forces of the Warsaw Pact countries, excepting the USSR.

3. The most useful manual is expected to be the Combat Employment manual, which updates tactics used by the modernized MIG-21 and which probably is the primary combat guidance for North Vietnamese MIG-21 pilots.

4. These manuals contain confirmatory and new data on the RS-2US (ALKALI) air-to-air missile, a booster starter system to permit rocket-assist take-off, and the first documentary information available on a Soviet boundary layer control system (SPS) for an aircraft. The latter two systems (RATO and SPS), not previously incorporated together into an operationally deployed Soviet aircraft, permit the MIG-21PFM to operate from poor quality runways and improvised airfields.

NLNP  
Mandatory Review  
Case NLN 99-9  
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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
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5. Analytical elements of the Intelligence Community are being notified via normal distribution channels of the acquisition of the above documents and are being provided pertinent extracts from the documents in [redacted]. The FBIS is currently translating the documents and the translations will be disseminated in the CSDB series to all pertinent consumers.

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[redacted]  
Thomas H. Karamessines  
Deputy Director for Plans

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Distribution: The Director of Central Intelligence **EO 12958 6.1(c)>25Yrs**

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