

HR70-14

TOP SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

8 August 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : John N. McMahon
Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : [redacted] Report

1. Enclosed is a [redacted] report. For convenience of reference by NFIB agencies, the codeword [redacted] has been assigned to the product of certain extremely sensitive agent sources of CIA's Directorate of Operations. The word [redacted] is classified [redacted] and is to be used only among persons authorized to read and handle this material.

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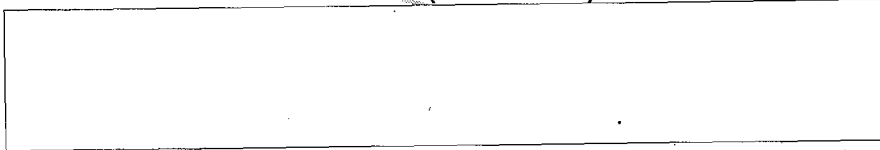
[redacted]
John N. McMahon

[redacted]
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Distribution:

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Intelligence Information Special Report

COUNTRY Warsaw Pact

DATE OF INFO. March 1978

DATE 8 August 1978

SUBJECT

Warsaw Pact Combined Staff Training Exercise
April 1978

SOURCE Documentary

SUMMARY:

This report is a translation of a Soviet communication in Russian from Marshal of the Soviet Union N. Ogarkov, Chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces to General of Arms F. Siwicki, Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces on the subject of a Warsaw Pact combined staff training exercise under the direction of Marshal Ogarkov 5-7 April 1978. The report is classified TOP SECRET. The main purpose of the scheduled exercise was to exercise control of the armed forces between H hour and H + 12 hours as:

- the forces are converted from a peacetime to wartime footing, and during

- the strategic deployment of forces in the Western and Southwestern Theaters of Military Operations.

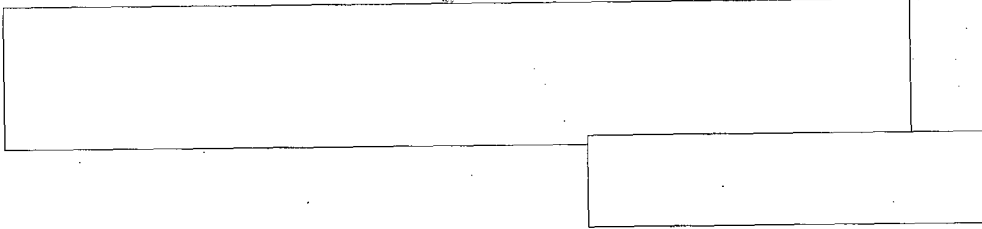
END OF SUMMARY

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[TO] THE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE
POLISH ARMED FORCES/DEPUTY MINISTER OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE OF THE POLISH PEOPLES REPUBLIC
GENERAL OF ARMS

Comrade F. SIWICKI

Warsaw

Esteemed Comrade General of Arms!

In conformity with the plan of combined undertakings of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states, we plan to conduct, with operations groups of the General (Main) Staffs and of front staffs of the allied armies, a combined staff training exercise on control of the army and naval forces. The time frame for conducting the exercise will be 5 to 7 April of this year. The Director will be the Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR.

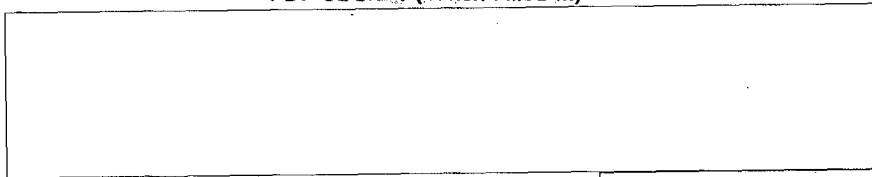
In the course of the exercise we plan to work on the control of the Armed Forces as they are converted from peacetime to wartime status and during the strategic deployment of troops in the Western and Southwestern Theaters of Military Operations. In the training exercise we propose to test one of the variants of converting the Armed Forces from peacetime to wartime status, one which is different from that now in effect. We envisage exercising control of the fronts and navies in the Western and Southwestern Theaters of Military Operations through the respective high commands in these theaters; the role of these high commands will be played by operations groups of the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states.

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In order to work on the matters of bringing the armed forces to full combat readiness by the system which it is our purpose to test in the exercise, we are forwarding to the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces a list of the main measures to be taken in the armies and navies in shifting them to the various levels of combat readiness. There is being created for the conduct of the exercise a training situation with the combat strength of the formations changed and an operational assignment for them which is different from the actual one.

We plan to issue the mission for the exercise 4 days before it begins. The time to be ready for the exercise is 1700 hours 4 April 1978 (Moscow time). The exercise will commence upon the director's signal. There are no plans to hold a general critique of the exercise. The results should be furnished to the exercise directors for the respective general (main) staffs on the spot.

I request that you issue the necessary instructions on keeping secret all the measures involved in preparing and conducting the exercise and convey your comments regarding the above procedure for conducting the exercise by 15 March.

Respectfully,

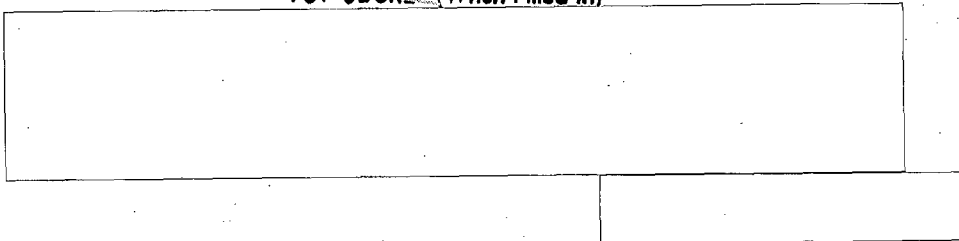
/S/
N. OGARKOV

MARSHAL OF THE SOVIET UNION
CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE USSR
FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF THE USSR

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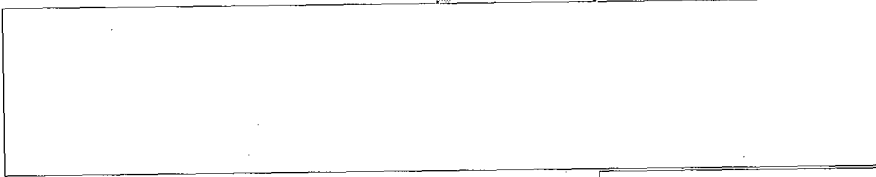
Military Threat

The forces are brought to combat readiness on the basis of an alert and moved to alternate concentration areas.

1. H + 12 minutes: All fighter aviation regiments of the national air defense are brought to Readiness No. 1.
2. H + 15 minutes: In the forces of the unified air defense system of the Warsaw Pact countries, the surface-to-air missile battalions, technical battalions (batteries) and radiotechnical subunits are shifted to Readiness No. 1.
3. H + 1 hour: Round-the-clock alert is put into effect in all radiotechnical subunits with radars that have been switched on and are conducting reconnaissance in the first line along the land (maritime) borders.
4. H + 2 hours: Radio and radiotechnical reconnaissance units and subunits occupy their position areas:
 - air defense large units and units deploy to cover forces during their movement from permanent garrison points and in concentration areas.

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5. H + 3 hours: Control organs of all branches of the armed forces go to prepared command posts
- at the command posts, round-the-clock alert of full shifts of combat crews is established;
 - operations groups with their communications means are sent to cooperating control organs of different national affiliation according to plans;
 - in the navy, ships performing combat duty occupy areas of combat actions;
 - in military commissariats their first echelons go to the suburban control posts and supervise the delivery of resources to the forces;
6. H + 4 hours: Additional communications channels are taken over from the state network.
7. H + 5 hours: At prepared control posts, the communications system is set up in full scale.
- reconnaissance of the enemy is intensified without violating borders;
 - missile large units and units are moved to siting areas;

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- army and naval forces are moved to alternate concentration (dispersal) areas and to positions;

- units and subunits for coverage of the state border occupy their assigned lines (positions) and carry out defensive measures (with the permission of the general staffs);

- a surveillance system is set up in cooperation with the border guards;

- aircraft not having shelters fly to operational airfields (dispersal airfields).

8. H + 8 hours: Reduced-strength (cadre-strength) large units and units receive their organizational nucleus from the reserve, set up reception centers, and prepare for full mobilization.

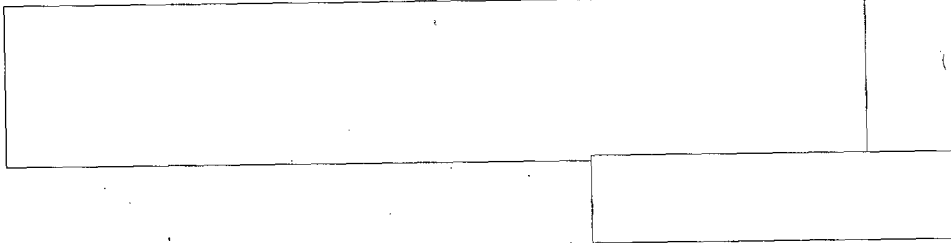
9. H + 12 hours: Large units and units on constant readiness and control organs with reconnaissance, electronic communications countermeasures, security and service units are brought up to full strength according to wartime tables of organization and equipment.

- ships of the reserve are fully manned according to wartime tables of organization and dispersed, and weapons and equipment are demothballed.

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10. H + 3-10 days: Vessels of civilian agencies which do not require refitting are called up.

- stationary rear services facilities carry out the dispersal of operational reserves of materiel.

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