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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
FROM: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT: Soviet System

1. I continue to press for products which provide for us and the policy community a more specific understanding of how the Soviet system works. I have asked for a picture of the Soviet prison and slave labor camp system, a picture of the potentially dissident elements by the Baltic Republics, Ukraine and the Moslem population, and, along with this, something on labor dissidence, alcoholism and health troubles. Somewhere along the line we should have a look at the exile groups. This morning I note a report on a solidarity group formed by exile Bulgarians which may or may not have connections inside the country.

2. In addition, [] is gathering from public sources and [] information about Soviet financial and commercial entities formed to operate around the world along with the kind of contracts and agreements they have been developing.

3. Now I ask you to put out an agenda of a detailed picture of the Soviet "military industrial complex". Let's see if this would start off with a detailed listing of the description of the major facilities within the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to evaluate how they are directed and operated, their physical and managerial relationship with civilian plants, and the convertibility from one to the other. I note in the current report of the Joint Chiefs on "Military Posture" the comment that the comparison of the dollar spending of the U.S. and the Soviets needs to be weighted somehow to reflect the fact that the Soviet production is much more standardized and therefore the same amount of dollars turn out more weapons for the Soviets. How this forces the Soviets to keep their military production high and to spread the product around the world when their own needs have been saturated may be an important offshoot of this situation. My hunch is that the Soviet special purpose plants cannot be readily converted and maybe they have trouble pouring out weapons for unemployment and worker dissatisfaction.

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