



Briefing on Soviet Economy in the 1980s

8/16/82
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HAND CARRY -
Cathy
82-1991
SFC

I. Mr. Chairman, you have asked for a briefing on three topics--prospects for Soviet economic growth in the 1980s, the degree of Soviet economic dependence--on the West in general and on the US in particular--and ^{the} vulnerability of Soviet military programs to Western use of economic measures.

HAND CARRY

- A. I propose to discuss each of these questions in fairly summary fashion.
- B. My colleagues and I, however, would be happy to try to answer any questions you may have at any stage of my presentation.

Cathy
16 Aug 82

II. Let me turn first to the general economic prospects for the USSR, a subject that has attracted a great deal of attention both within the government and in the Western academic community and indeed in Soviet publications over the past several years.

- A. There is general agreement on the Western side at least that Soviet economic growth will be markedly slower in the 1980s.
- B. We believe that Soviet GNP growth is unlikely to average more than 2 percent per year in the 1980s, compared with 3 percent per year in the 1970s, and 5 percent per year in the 1960s.

10/1/82

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