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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

RELEASE AS SANITIZED

15 August 1998

16 August 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Analysis/Free World, OSR

SUBJECT: Withdrawal of Soviet Military Personnel from Egypt

1. Attached is the subject information you requested. It is estimated that a maximum of 6,400 Soviet nationals, military personnel and dependents, could have returned by the end of 15 August. As many as 4,300 could have left on non-scheduled flights, 1,200 on scheduled flights, and 860 on Soviet passenger ships.

2. In addition to the flights mounted to return Soviet personnel to the USSR (Table 1), the scheduled civil international services between Moscow and Cairo afford an additional opportunity for the exit of Soviet nationals from Egypt. There are a total of five flights per week between the two cities -- four by Aeroflot and one by Egypt Air, the Egyptian national airline. Aeroflot also operates one bi-weekly IL-18 service. The most important of these flights are the two that operate point-to-point (between Moscow and Cairo) -- one via Egypt Air and one via Aeroflot -- each of which uses an IL-62 with a maximum capacity of 185 passengers. The other four Aeroflot services, each using IL-18s with a capacity of 95 passengers, operate beyond Cairo in Sub-Saharan Africa and thus are limited in the number of passengers on which can be carried on return trips from Cairo to Moscow. Although 650 to 700 seats per week are thus available, only some 200 to 300 seats per week probably could be used for the return of Soviet nationals to the USSR. All these civil flights are known to have been operated on a

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SC to 14801
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ATTACHMENT I

15 August 1972

1. The Following stipulate the most complete data we have on the ~~Soviet~~ ships

JULY 1972.

- a. UKRAINA: Odessa - Constanta - passed the Bosphorus on 16 July, declaring 360 passengers on board

Arrived Istanbul 16 July
Piraeus 17 July
Alexandria 19 July
Beirut 21 July
Famagusta 22 July
Latakia 22 July
Alexandria 23 July
Piraeus 25 July
Istanbul 26 July

- b. POBEDA (Voyage 1)

Passed the Bosphorus Southbound from Odessa for Alexandria on 28 July, declaring empty.

Passed the Bosphorus Northbound from Alexandria for Odessa, on 2-August, declaring 430 passengers.

- c. POBEDA (Voyage 2)

Passed the Bosphorus Southbound from Odessa for Alexandria on 5 August, declaring empty.

Passed the Bosphorus from Alexandria for Odessa on 11 August, declaring 429 passengers.

WARNING
SENSITIVE INFORMATION
AND PROCEDURES

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On the second northbound voyage
numerous young men were seen on deck.

d. ROSSIYA: Passed the Bosphorus on 27 July declaring
from Odessa for Havana with 166
passengers and was scheduled to arrive
in Havana on 13 August.

e. IVAN FRANKO:

Arrived Genoa 7 July
Marseilles 8 July
Malaga 8 July
Casablanca 11 July
Vigo 13 July
Harve 15 July
Bergen 7/12 July
Copenhagen 27/28 July
Harve 30 July
Oslo 31 July
Sicily 6 August
Alexandria 9 August

Upon departure from Sicily the ship had
416 passengers on board.

f. SHOTA RUSTAVELI is under charter to the "Charter
Travel Company, Ltd." until at least mid-June 1973.
The company has offices in London. The ship
passed the Bosphorus on 14 August declaring from
Odessa for Genoa with no passengers.

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