MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Report

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

2. Requests for extra copies of this report or for utilization of any part of this report in any other form should be addressed to the originating office.

William E. Nelson
Deputy Director for Operations

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Summary

Following is a translation from Polish of a SECRET OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE document which refers to construction of Warsaw Pact command posts and summarizes the status of Polish mobile command posts. Costs of the Pact command posts are provided. In addition to command posts in helicopters, armored personnel carriers, and buses, the Polish National Defense Committee has a command post in an AN-24 aircraft. The communications equipment used in these command posts is also identified.

End of Summary

Source Comment

These Warsaw Pact command posts are being built in Poland and Bulgaria under the cryptonym ALBATROS. At the sixth meeting of Warsaw Pact defense ministers in Bucharest on 6-7 February 1974, the Romanians sharply declined to support this project.
Supplementary to the Reports on Communications and Command

1. The operational forces at all levels of command have mobile command posts. They are equipped with the necessary transport vehicles* and signal centers to assure them great maneuverability, mobility and march speed, and ability to overcome ground barriers.

The forward command posts at the tactical level are 100 percent dependent on armored transport vehicles; in operational elements only the commanders have armored personnel carriers.

The command posts and forward command posts of all elements are 100 percent dependent on wheeled vehicles, primarily special staff buses.

In addition, air command posts are located in the following elements:

--National Defense Committee, 1 on AN-24
   General Staff
--Front, armies 4 on MI-8

The tactical large units will receive additional posts as follows: in 1974--10 on the MI-2, and in 1975--10 on the MI-2.

*Current status:

--421 command cars on armored carriers (100 percent of requirement),
--1082 AS staff buses of various types (100 percent of requirement).
Mobile command vehicles of the new complement (about 20 percent of the general strength) are equipped with the following:

-- broadband ultra-shortwave radio sets (R-123 and R-111), shortwave radio sets (R-130) and radiotelephones with antennas of vertical transmission, which increase the range of operation to 300-350 kilometers;

-- radio-relay equipment (R-405 radio relay);

-- wire communications equipment

AS-250 and AS-2 staff buses are equipped with telephone conference equipment and, in accordance with the level, telegraphic subscriber equipment.

2. The Polish Armed Forces are participating in the construction of two command posts of the Combined Armed Forces at a combined cost of 47 to 50 million rubles. Poland will pay 13.5 percent of the cost (about 6.35 to 6.75 million rubles) in installments. The first installment of 812.7 thousand rubles was forwarded in December of last year. In 1975 the installment will be the same.

3. "An agreement on the construction . . . " was coordinated with all pertinent countries and has been signed to date by the defense ministers of Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, and East Germany. It is anticipated that the other ministers will sign the agreement at the 6th meeting of the Defense Ministers' Committee.

4. An appropriate level of modernization of communications equipment anticipated in accordance with "the protocol" will be 100 percent assured by 1975. However, this will not satisfy the total needs of the armed forces. With regard to total needs, they will be satisfied by 17 percent in 1975 and by 36 percent in 1980.

General Staff

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