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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

21 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : John N. McMahon
Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : STATUTE on the Military Council of the
Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact

1. The enclosed Intelligence Information Special Report is a translation from Russian of one of four SECRET statutes which establish the principal military organizations of the Warsaw Pact and govern their peacetime activities. The present statute establishes the Military Council as a consultative organ composed of the senior command personnel of the Combined Armed Forces. The function of the Military Council is to develop recommendations on the organization, training, combat readiness and control of the Combined Armed Forces and on the development and introduction of weapons and equipment.

2. Because the source of this report is extremely sensitive, this document should be handled on a strict need-to-know basis within recipient agencies.

John N. McMahon

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Intelligence Information Special Report

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COUNTRY USSR/WARSAW PACT

[Redacted]

DATE OF
INFO. Current

DATE
21 March 1978

SUBJECT

STATUTE on the Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces
of the Warsaw Pact Member States

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following report is a translation from Russian of a SECRET statute establishing the Military Council as a consultative organ composed of the senior command personnel of the Combined Armed Forces. The function of the Military Council is to develop recommendations on the organization, training, combat readiness and control of the Combined Armed Forces and on the development and introduction of weapons and equipment. The document briefly describes the procedures for adopting proposals within the Military Council and putting them into effect in the individual member countries, as well as the functions of the Council officials.

End of Summary

[Redacted] COMMENT:

The four statutes establishing the military organizations of the Warsaw Pact were approved by the Political Consultative Committee on 17 March 1969. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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SECRET

STATUTE

ON THE MILITARY COUNCIL OF THE
COMBINED ARMED FORCES OF THE
WARSAW PACT MEMBER STATES

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STATUTE

ON THE
MILITARY COUNCIL OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES OF THE
MEMBER STATES OF THE WARSAW PACT

(For Peacetime)

1. In the interests of the comprehensive examination of current matters of the condition and development of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states, the Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces is established.

2. The Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces is composed of the following:

-- the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, who is the Chairman of the Military Council;

-- the Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces/First Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces;

-- the Deputy Commanders-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces/deputy defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states or chiefs of the General (Main) Staffs;

-- the Commander of the Air Defense Forces of the Warsaw Pact Member States/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces;

-- the Chief of the Technical Committee of the Combined Armed Forces/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for Armament.

The Secretary of the Military Council is appointed by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

3. With the concurrence of the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states or by decision of the Political Consultative Committee the composition of the Military Council can be enlarged depending on the international situation or on the tasks charged to the Combined Armed Forces.

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4. The Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces is a collegial military organ with consultative and recommendatory functions.

The Military Council examines these matters of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states:

- a) the maintenance of their necessary level of combat and mobilization readiness;
- b) the organizational structure of the troops and naval forces;
- c) the organization of the combat and operational training of the troops and naval forces;
- d) the prospective development of the Combined Armed Forces and the plans for the systems of weapons and combat equipment;
- e) the improvement of the control of the troops and naval forces based on modern scientific and technological achievements;
- f) the undertakings relating to the preparation of the theaters of military operations, and other matters pertaining to the Combined Armed Forces;
- g) the plans of combined undertakings for the Combined Armed Forces.

5. The discussion of the matters submitted for the consideration of the Military Council and the development of recommendations and proposals concerning these matters proceed on the basis of the broad exchange of opinions of the entire body of the Military Council.

6. Recommendations and proposals are developed in the Military Council based on the attainment of common views concerning the matters under discussion and are adopted by querying each member of the Military Council by name.

In the event that a member of the Military Council has a special opinion, this opinion is recorded in the official report of the Military Council and then discussed jointly with the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and the defense minister of the appropriate country.

The recording of a special opinion cannot serve as an obstacle to the implementation of the adopted decision in the armies of the other countries.

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Proposals of the Military Council are put into effect depending on the nature of the matter:

- a) by decisions of the governments upon representations by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces;
- b) by orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces concerning matters under his jurisdiction;
- c) by instructions of the defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states upon representations by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

7. Sessions of the Military Council are held on the basis of prepared annual plans that have been coordinated within the Military Council and approved by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

The Military Council assembles not less than twice a year in one of the countries by agreement of the Commander-in-Chief with the defense ministers.

Any one of the members of the Military Council can raise for discussion by the Military Council additional matters that were not provided for by prior plan.

Depending on the matters to be discussed, appropriate individuals from the command personnel of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states may be invited to attend Military Council sessions.

8. The functions of the responsible officials as a result of the establishment of the Military Council are:

- a) the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, being the chairman of the Military Council, organizes its work and directs it in deciding the matters set forth in Article 4 of this Statute;
- b) the Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces coordinates the preparation and development of the matters submitted for examination by the Military Council and organizes the monitoring of the execution of the decisions adopted by the Military Council;
- c) the Deputy Commanders-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces/deputy defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states

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prepare recommendations and proposals for examination by the Military Council that are directed toward the resolution of matters pertaining to the Combined Armed Forces and the respective armies; they ensure the recommendations and proposals adopted by the Military Council are implemented in their armies in conformity with Article 6 of this Statute;

d) the Commander of the Air Defense Forces of the Warsaw Pact Member States/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces prepares recommendations and proposals for discussion by the Military Council concerning the matters of improving the unified air defense system of the states, training the troops, and supplying them with equipment and weapons;

e) the Chief of the Technical Committee of the Combined Armed Forces/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for Armament prepares for examination by the Military Council matters relating to the development of the system of arming and equipping the Combined Armed Forces and to the coordination of those scientific-research and experimental design projects that are related to the supplying of the armies with weapons and equipment and that are of mutual interest.

9. The official reports of the sessions of the Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces are signed by the chairman and members of the Military Council and by its secretary and are sent to the defense ministers of the member states of the Warsaw Pact.

FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the
Bulgarian Communist Party, Chairman of the Council of
Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

T. ZHIVKOV

FOR THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the
Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party

J. KADAR

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Premier of the Hungarian Revolutionary
Worker-Peasant Government

J. FOCK

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First Secretary of the Central Committee of the
Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the State
Council of the German Democratic Republic

W. ULBRICHT

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the
German Democratic Republic

W. STOPH

FOR THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the
Polish United Workers' Party

W. GOMULKA

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the
Polish People's Republic

J. CYRANKIEWICZ

FOR THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the
Romanian Communist Party, Chairman of the State
Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania

N. CEAUSESCU

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist
Republic of Romania

I.G. MAURER

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General Secretary of the Central Committee of the
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L. I. BREZHNEV

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union
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A. N. KOSYGIN

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President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

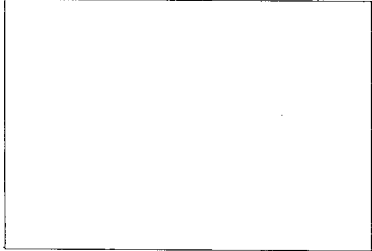
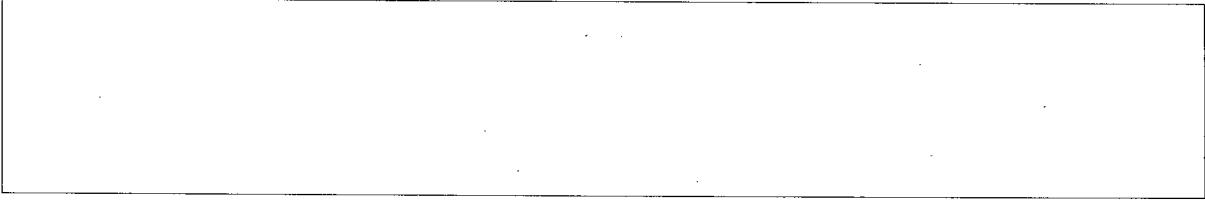
L. SVOBODA

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A. DUBCEK

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