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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 Committee of Defense Ministers
of the Warsaw Pact Member States

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 Committee of Defense Ministers as the military organ of the Warsaw Pact Organization and lists its functions in relation to the Combined Armed Forces and the Political Consultative Committee.

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 Committee of Defense Ministers of
the Warsaw Pact Member States

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following report is a translation from Russian of a SECRET Warsaw Pact statute establishing the Committee of Defense Ministers as the military organ of the Warsaw Pact Organization. The Committee, which is responsive to the Political Consultative Committee, has the functions of studying the status of NATO and developing recommendations on matters relating to the defensive capabilities of the Warsaw Pact and the development of the Combined Armed Forces, the control apparatus, and theaters of military operations.

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]

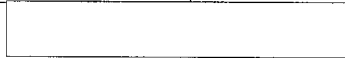
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STATUTE
ON THE COMMITTEE OF DEFENSE MINISTERS
OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE WARSAW PACT

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STATUTE

ON THE
COMMITTEE OF DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE MEMBER STATES
OF THE WARSAW PACT

(For Peacetime)

1. In order to develop coordinated recommendations and proposals on matters of strengthening the defensive capabilities of the member states of the Warsaw Pact and also of building and improving the combat readiness of the Combined Armed Forces, and in order to prepare matters to be discussed by the Political Consultative Committee, the Committee of Defense Ministers is established on the basis of Article 6 of the Warsaw Pact.

The Committee of Defense Ministers is the military organ of the Warsaw Pact Organization. It is made up of the ministers of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states, the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, and the Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces.

2. The Committee of Defense Ministers has the following tasks:

- a) to examine the status of the probable enemy, his operations plans, and the directions of development of his armed forces;
- b) to develop recommendations and proposals on matters of improving the defensive capabilities of the member states of the Warsaw Pact;
- c) to discuss recommendations and proposals for the building and development of the Combined Armed Forces and the raising of their combat readiness;
- d) to examine matters relating to the activity of the control organs of the Combined Armed Forces;
- e) to examine the condition of the theaters of military operations and give recommendations on their preparation;
- f) to examine the condition of the wartime means of control

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and take the necessary steps to improve them;

g) to coordinate other military matters and undertakings that require mutual coordination.

3. The recommendations and proposals of the Committee of Defense Ministers pertaining to fundamental military and military-political matters that require mutually coordinated decisions are submitted for the consideration of the governments or the Political Consultative Committee for their respective approval.

The decisions of the Committee of Defense Ministers pertaining to matters within the jurisdiction of the defense ministers are adopted for execution by the defense ministers and the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

4. Sessions of the Committee of Defense Ministers are held once or twice a year. The sessions are chaired by the defense ministers in turn. The sessions are convoked by the current presiding defense minister.

Special sessions of the Committee are convoked by the current chairman upon request of one of the Committee members with the condition of the concurrence of no less than 50 percent of the Committee members.

The sessions of the Committee of Defense Ministers are held in the territory of the country stipulated to have the current chairman. The working organ of the Committee is the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces.

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

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FOR THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

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

J. KADAR

Premier of the Hungarian Revolutionary
Worker-Peasant Government

J. FOCK

FOR THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

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

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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

FOR THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

L.I. BREZHNEV

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Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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President of the Czechoslovak Socialist
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L. SVOBODA

First Secretary of the Central Committee of
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A. DUBCEK

Premier of the Czechoslovak Socialist
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O. CERNIK

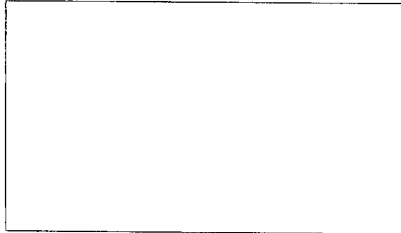
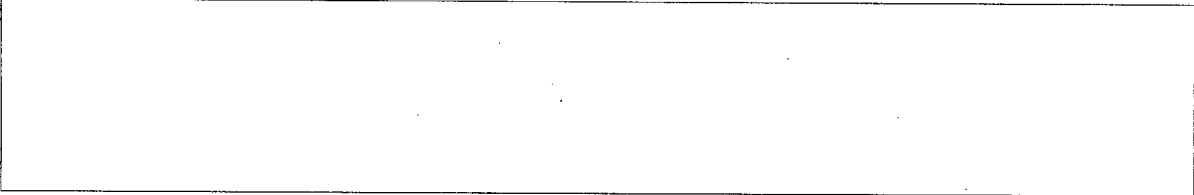
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