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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 Combined Armed Forces  
and Combined Command 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 activities. The present statute defines the organization and functions of the Combined Armed Forces, delineates the authority and responsibilities of the Commander-in-Chief, Deputy and Chief of Staff, and outlines the activities of the Military Council, Staff and Technical Committee. It also provides brief guidelines on the financial responsibilities of the members, with both manpower and contributions based on proportional representation.

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

FIRDB - 312/00538-78

DATE OF  
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DATE  
21 March 1978

SUBJECT

STATUTE on the Combined Armed Forces and Combined Command  
of the Warsaw Pact Member States

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following report is a translation from Russian of a SECRET statute which establishes the organization of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact and governs the activities of its organizations and senior personnel. The document defines the overall organization and functions of the Combined Armed Forces, delineates the authority and responsibilities of the Commander-in-Chief, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Chief of Staff, and outlines the activities of the Military Council, Staff and Technical Committee. It also provides brief guidelines on the financial responsibilities of the members, with both manpower and contributions based on proportional representation.

End of Summary

COMMENT:

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

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STATUTE  
ON THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES  
AND THE COMBINED COMMAND OF  
THE WARSAW PACT MEMBER STATES

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STATUTE

ON THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES  
AND THE COMBINED COMMAND OF  
THE WARSAW PACT MEMBER STATES

(For Peacetime)

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The present Statute on the Combined Armed Forces which are allocated in accordance with the agreement of the Warsaw Pact member states, for combined actions in compliance with Article 5 of the Pact, and on the Combined Command, is based on the principles of the Warsaw Pact of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, concluded on 14 May 1955 in Warsaw.

The experience of many years of activity of the Warsaw Pact Organization underscores the stability of these principles, the devotion of the member states of the Pact to the responsibilities assumed by them, and their resolution to act in accordance with Warsaw Pact requirements.

In the event of an armed attack in Europe against one or several member states of the Pact by any one state or a group of states, every member state of the Pact by way of exercising the right to individual or collective self-defense, will afford to the state or states subjected to such an attack, immediate assistance, individually or in coordination with other member states of the Pact, by all means necessary, including the use of armed force. Member states of the Pact will immediately confer regarding combined measures which must be taken for the purposes of reestablishing and maintaining international peace and security.

For this purpose, the members of the Pact established the Combined Armed Forces and take the necessary steps to strengthen them and constantly increase their combat readiness, and coordinate their efforts in mutual defense for the protection of

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peace and socialism in Europe.

On the basis of Article 5 of the indicated Pact, a Combined Command is established, headed by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, for the purpose of commanding the Combined Armed Forces and coordinating their activities.

I. THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES OF THE WARSAW PACT  
MEMBER STATES

1. By Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states is meant the forces and means which are allocated in accordance with the agreement of the Warsaw Pact member states for combined actions, and the combined military organs established in accordance with Article 5 of the Pact of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, signed on 14 May 1955 in Warsaw by the heads of the Warsaw Pact member states.

2. The complement of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states includes the allocated national military units, large units, and formations of all branches of the armed forces, and support units, control and rear services organs, designated in accordance with the decision of the government of each country for the conduct of combined combat actions, as well as the control organs of the Combined Armed Forces.

The total number of national troops allocated for peacetime and wartime, a list of large units, units, rear services facilities and control organs, their organization, armament and equipping, the levels of reserves of materiel, and the scale of measures for operational preparation of territories of the countries are established by the government of each country taking into account the recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and the directives of the Political Consultative Committee depending on the means at its disposal and its economic capabilities. These matters are officially recorded in the form of special protocols, which are signed by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and by the ministers of defense of each state and are approved by the governments of the respective Warsaw Pact member states.

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3. Troops and naval forces allocated to the complement of the Combined Armed Forces by the Warsaw Pact member states for peacetime remain in direct subordination to the respective ministers of defense, and their lives and activities are regulated by the laws, statutes and military regulations existing in each country. Moreover, the ministers of defense bear full responsibility before their governments for the condition, armament, equipping, combat readiness, and military and political indoctrination of the personnel of their troops and for the establishment of the reserves of materiel-technical means prescribed for them.

The Commander-in-Chief, with respect to the Combined Armed Forces in peacetime, exercises the authority stipulated in Section III of the present Statute.

The procedure for command of the Combined Armed Forces, the activity of the Combined Command, as well as the interrelationships of the Combined Command and national commands in wartime are determined by a special Statute.

4. For combined accomplishment of the tasks of air defense of the Warsaw Pact member states a unified air defense system of the Warsaw Pact member states is established.

5. The planning of the wartime employment of the troops which are allocated to the Combined Armed Forces, is carried out by the ministers of defense and the General (Main) Staffs of the Warsaw Pact member states taking into account the recommendations of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and the proposals of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR, and when necessary, with the cooperation of the adjacent armies of the Warsaw Pact member states. The operations plans devised for utilizing the troops allocated from each country in wartime, are signed by the ministers of defense and by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and are approved by the respective governments of the Warsaw Pact member states.

## II. THE COMBINED COMMAND, SENIOR PERSONNEL AND CONTROL ORGANS OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

6. In the Combined Command are established the following posts:

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- Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact Member States;
- Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces/First Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces;
- Deputy Commanders-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, detailed from each Warsaw Pact member state with the rank of deputy ministers of defense of these states or Chiefs of General (Main) Staffs;
- Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces/Commander of the Air Defense Forces of the Warsaw Pact Member States;
- Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for Armament/Chief of the Technical Committee.

7. For directing the activities of the Combined Armed Forces the following control organs are established:

- the Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces;
- the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces;
- the Technical Committee of the Combined Armed Forces.

8. In the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states there may be, by consent of the governments, representatives of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, who in their work are governed by a special Statute, coordinated with the ministers of defense and approved by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

### III. THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

9. The Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces is appointed by decision of the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states from among the marshals (generals) of any Warsaw Pact member state for a term of four to six years. \*

10. In his activity the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces is governed by the decisions of the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states and by the directives of the Political Consultative Committee. Through his deputies and through the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces, in coordination with the ministers of defense and, when necessary, with the governments, he organizes and carries out measures in the

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Combined Armed Forces directed at increasing their combat and mobilization readiness. The Commander-in-Chief periodically reports on the results of his activities and on the status and development of the Combined Armed Forces to the Political Consultative Committee and to the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states.

11. The Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces in coordination with the ministers of defense and in accordance with Article 10 of the present Statute:

a) Coordinates plans for the operational employment of the troops and naval forces allocated to the complement of the Combined Armed Forces;

b) issues directives designed to enhance the combat readiness of the troops and naval forces and their operational and combat training, determines the annual combined undertakings for the Combined Armed Forces (exercises, war games, courses of instruction, conferences, consultations, meetings and others) and directs their implementation;

c) develops proposals directed at improving the system of armament and also for the preparation of the theater of military operations and for the stockpiling of materiel.

12. The Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, based on Articles 10 and 11, has the authority:

a) in implementing the decisions of the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states or of the Political Consultative Committee, to give orders (recommendations) in connection with shifting the troops of the Combined Armed Forces to increased or full combat readiness;

b) in implementing the plan coordinated with the ministers of defense, to participate in monitoring the progress of combat and operational training and the level of combat readiness of the troops and naval forces allocated to the complement of the Combined Armed Forces;

c) to sign jointly with the ministers of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states drafts of operations plans, protocols, plans and other documents which are concerned with the development of the Combined Armed Forces, and to submit these documents to the respective governments for consideration and approval;

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d) to deal with the ministers of defense or with the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states, as well as with the Political Consultative Committee, on all matters concerning the Combined Armed Forces;

e) in coordination with the ministers of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states to submit for the consideration of the governments, candidates for the positions of: Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces/First Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Commander of the Air Defense Forces of the Warsaw Pact Member States/Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Chief of the Technical Committee/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for Armament;

f) in coordination with the ministers of defense in compliance with Article 8 of the present Statute, to appoint representatives of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces to the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states;

g) to approve, within the limits of the prescribed numerical strength, the tables of organization of the Staff, Technical Committee and other control organs of the Combined Armed Forces, as well as in coordination with the ministers of defense, to specify the terms of service of the generals, admirals and officers in the control organs of the Combined Armed Forces, and to issue their duty assignment orders.

#### IV. THE DEPUTY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

13. In compliance with Article 6 of the present Statute the Commander-in-Chief has the following deputies:

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

-- Deputy Commanders-in-Chief -- who are simultaneously deputy ministers of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states or Chiefs of the General (Main) Staffs. They are appointed by the governments, one from each of the Warsaw Pact member states, and are stationed in their own countries. For discussion and resolution of matters of mutual interest, the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces holds periodic meetings with these deputies;

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

-- Chief of the Technical Committee/Deputy

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Commander-in-Chief for Armament.

14. The Chief of Staff, the Commander of the Air Defense Forces and the Chief of the Technical Committee, by mutual agreement, are appointed by the governments of the Warsaw Pact member states from the complement of the Armed Forces of any Warsaw Pact member state.

15. The Deputy Commanders-in-Chief in their work are governed by the present Statute, by the Statute on the Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact Member States, and by the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and the ministers of defense of the respective states, while the Commander of the Air Defense Forces/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces is governed in addition by the Statute on the Unified Air Defense System of the Warsaw Pact Member States.

V. THE MILITARY COUNCIL OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES OF THE WARSAW PACT MEMBER STATES

16. The Military Council thoroughly examines the current problems concerning the status and development of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states.

The activity of the Military Council is of a consultative and recommendatory nature and is carried out on the basis of a special Statute.

17. Included in the complement of the Military Council of the Combined Armed Forces are:

- 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 Ministers of Defense 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

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

#### VI. THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

18. The Chief of Staff directs the work of the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces and coordinates the activity of all the control organs of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces. He personally participates in working out matters connected with the operational employment of the Combined Armed Forces in wartime. He organizes the preparation and working out of matters concerning the Combined Armed Forces, submits reports to the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and monitors the implementation of his decisions.

19. The Chief of Staff by order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces coordinates with the General (Main) Staffs the combined undertakings which are carried out in the Combined Armed Forces. He determines jointly with the General (Main) Staffs the procedure for submitting informational documents and corresponds with the General (Main) Staffs on matters which are under his jurisdiction.

20. The Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces is granted the authority to issue orders throughout the Staff, and approve regulations concerning the directorates and departments of the Staff, plans and other documents for the internal use of the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces, and also to use the diplomatic pouch and communications means established among the Warsaw Pact member states.

21. The Chief of Staff of the Combined Armed Forces has deputies appointed from the ministries of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states with the rank of Deputy Chiefs of the General (Main) Staffs, who work permanently in the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces and who simultaneously are the senior representatives of the General (Main) Staffs. They ensure continuous cooperation between the General (Main) Staffs of the Warsaw Pact member states and the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces, and they participate in planning the operational employment of their troops.

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## VII. THE STAFF OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

22. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces is the organ of control of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

23. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces is charged with studying and assessing the military-political and strategic situation, working out proposals on matters of combat and mobilization readiness of troops and naval forces, and of their operational and combat training, with improving the organizational structure of troops and the system of armament, with equipping troops and naval forces with weapons and military equipment, and with preparing the theater of military operations and stockpiling the necessary reserves.

24. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces studies data on the probable enemy, his operations plans, organization, weapons, combat equipment and other matters which are carried out in the NATO system, as well as in other imperialist military blocs, and on the basis of this, prepares measures and proposals for the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and, by his order, informs the General (Main) Staffs of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states.

25. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces in accordance with Article 11 of the present Statute works out the plan of combined undertakings, which are conducted annually in the staffs and troops of the Combined Armed Forces (exercises, war games, courses of instruction, conferences, consultations, meetings, and others) and, after coordinating it with the General (Main) Staffs of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states, submits it to the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for approval. After the plan is approved, the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces organizes the preparation and conduct of the measures prescribed in this general plan.

26. It studies, synthesizes, and presents proposals for the introduction of positive experience and new methods and procedures to be used in training the troops, and it also studies and synthesizes the results achieved in improving the materiel resources for their training.

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For the purpose of studying the experience of the troops and their status, as well as rendering assistance on the spot, generals and officers of the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces participate in the combined undertakings which are carried out, in accordance with the plans of the Combined Command and the plans of the ministries of defense, in the troops and naval forces which are allocated to the complement of the Combined Armed Forces (exercises, courses of instruction, war games and others).

It plans and conducts meetings and scientific conferences which are of mutual interest in regard to the application of the newest scientific and technical achievements in military affairs.

27. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces carries out its work in close cooperation with the General (Main) Staffs of the Warsaw Pact member states.

The General (Main) Staffs coordinate with the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces the garrisoning of troops, naval forces and staffs of the Combined Armed Forces (large unit and higher) and their supply disposition points, and periodically provide the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces with necessary information according to a jointly arranged schedule.

28. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces is manned by generals, admirals and officers from all the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states based on the principle of proportional representation (in accordance with Appendix No. 1); these personnel are released from other responsibilities in their own armies.

29. The generals, admirals and officers of the Staff\*, who are on duty, wear national military uniforms and military insignia of rank, and are governed by the regulations established for the respective armed forces. Their terms of service in the Staff are determined by the Commander-in-Chief in coordination with the ministers of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states.

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\* In addition to the Staff, this also refers to the other control organs of the Combined Armed Forces.

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30. The Staff of the Combined Armed Forces and other control organs of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states are located in Moscow.

VIII. THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

31. The Technical Committee is established and is attached to the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces. The Technical Committee is headed by the Chief of the Technical Committee/Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for Armament. In its work the Technical Committee is governed by the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces and by the present Statute.

32. The Technical Committee prepares recommendations on the system of armament and combat equipment of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member states, and also studies the status and future development of the weapons and equipment of these armies and by mutual agreement takes steps to coordinate those scientific research and experimental design projects which are connected with equipping the armies with weapons and equipment and which are of mutual interest.

\* 33. The work of the Technical Committee is carried out in contact with the Commission on Defense Industry of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

34. The Military Scientific and Technical Council is established and is attached to the Deputy Commander-in-Chief for Armament; the main task of the council is to examine the most important recommendations prepared by the Technical Committee.

Sessions of the Military Scientific and Technical Council are held periodically, two or three times per year.

The complement of the Military Scientific and Technical Council is made up of deputy ministers or deputy chiefs of the General (Main) Staffs for armament, or of chairmen of the Scientific and Technical Committees of the defense ministries (of the General Staffs) of the Warsaw Pact member states. The Chairman of the Military Scientific and Technical Council is the Deputy Commander-in-Chief for Armament.

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The proposals of the Military Scientific and Technical Council are formulated in protocols and are submitted to the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces for approval.

IX. THE BUDGET AND FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMBINED COMMAND AND THE CONTROL ORGANS OF THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES

35. To finance the activities of the Combined Command, the Staff, and other control organs of the Combined Armed Forces a budget is worked out by drawing upon the contributions of the Warsaw Pact member states in accordance with Appendix No. 2.

36. Budget resources are spent on the support of combined undertakings for operational and combat training of the Combined Armed Forces, maintenance of reserves of materiel which are allocated to the reserve of the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces, on support of the service activity of the Combined Command and control organs of the Combined Armed Forces, the use of government and operational communications, and the maintenance of motor transport.

The budget and its administration are approved annually, on the instructions of the governments, by the defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states and by the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

37. Expenditures connected with cash, clothing and quarters allowances, transportation and medical support and other types of support for generals, admirals and officers on duty in the Staff and in other control organs of the Combined Armed Forces, are covered by the ministries of defense of the Warsaw Pact member states in accordance with the laws and statutes of these states.

The pay of generals and officers is determined by the ministers of defense of the respective governments in coordination with the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Armed Forces.

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For the PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the 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

Chairman 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

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics

A.N. KOSYGIN

For the CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

L. SVOBODA

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist  
Party of Czechoslovakia

A. DUBCEK

Premier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

O. CERNIK

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Appendix No. 1  
To the Statute on the Combined  
Armed Forces and the Combined  
Command of the Warsaw Pact  
Member States

ESTIMATE

of the manning of the main directorates and departments\*  
of the Staff and Technical Committee of the Combined Armed  
Forces by generals, admirals and officers

People's Republic of Bulgaria	-	7%
Hungarian People's Republic	-	6%
German Democratic Republic	-	6%
Polish People's Republic	-	13.5%
Socialist Republic of Romania	-	10%
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	-	44.5%
Czechoslovak Socialist Republic	-	13%
		<hr/>
		100%

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\* By main directorates and departments are meant all control  
organs, except servicing organs (administrative, secret, cipher  
communications and others).

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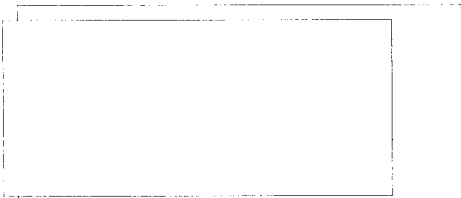
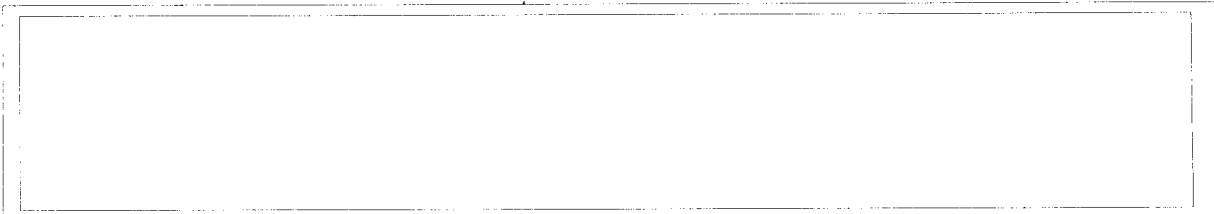
Appendix No. 2  
To the Statute on the Combined  
Armed Forces and the Combined  
Command of the Warsaw Pact  
Member States

CONTRIBUTIONS

of the Warsaw Pact member states to the budget for financing the  
activities of the Combined Command, the Staff and other  
control organs of the Combined Armed Forces

(percentages)

People's Republic of Bulgaria	-	7%
Hungarian People's Republic	-	6%
German Democratic Republic	-	6%
Polish People's Republic	-	13.5%
Socialist Republic of Romania	-	10%
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	-	44.5%
Czechoslovak Socialist Republic	-	13%
		<u>100%</u>



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