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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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COUNTRY **Czechoslovakia**
SUBJECT **Military Training in Czechoslovakia**

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1. Between the east Slovakian village of Michalovce and the city of Uzhorod there is a large forest in which both Czechs and Soviets held partisan training on a large scale. The Czechs send "Young Pioneers" to the area, and many of them have also been sent for training.
2. Young people between the ages of 13 and 19 are the participants in the courses which are officially called "youth sport meetings." In the course of 1953 between 4,500 and 5,000 young people received training here. A large number of Soviet youth from the Carpatho-Ukraine also participated.
3. In the spring of 1953 there was a meeting between Czech and East German officials on the question of the exchange of some army officers for better mutual military training. As a beginning 330 to 340 Czech officers were sent to East Germany and 300 to 320 Volkspolizei officers to various Czechoslovak garrisons. Another 110 Czechoslovak staff officers were sent to the USSR for courses of three to six months in Soviet military academies.
4. Para-military training of Czechoslovak girls was undertaken at the close of the 1953 school year in connection with various women's organizations. Only genuine volunteers were accepted.
5. During the summer of 1953 the Ministry of Education issued an order, according to which pre-military training would begin among students at the beginning of the 1953 and 1954 school year, and requiring all schoolgirls over 14 to participate.
6. Older girls are given a longer pre-military training under army officers. The courses are split into general military education and technical training. The courses include general training in shooting, target practice with small caliber rifles, communications services training on radio and telephone, map reading, medical service, air defense.

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