Approved For Release 1999/09/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000300310003-:

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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COUNTRY

Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT

Reactions to Duchacek's Statements Concerning Czechoslovak Claims to

Polish-held Areas

DATE:

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INFO.

DIST.

4 February 1947

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ORIGIN

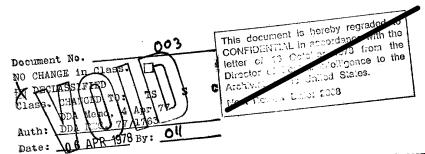
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CHALLESTICS OF CONTE

INTELLIGINCE REPORT

- 1. During the budget debates in the Constitutional Assembly between 11 and 13 December 1946, considerable time was given to discussions of Czechoslovakia's foreign policy, and particularly to the angles of the policy that consern Germany and Czechoslovak claims to the Polish-held areas around Glatz and Ratibor. A strong speech was made by Dr. Ivo Duchácek, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, who stressed the dangers Czechoslovakia can face from an economically reconstructed Germany. Concerning Poland, he underscored the fact that territorial demands cannot be made against that country if the present western border of New Poland is accepted as definitive. He added, however, that in border discussions with Poland, Czechoslovakia can, "in the interests of Slavic cooperation, expect full cooperation from the USSR."
- 2. In the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the immediate reaction to the speech was that Duchacek is toying dangerously with the Soviets concerning the Glats problem. Accordingly, the Minister for Information promptly ordered the Czechoslovak press to delete the above-quoted remark from their publication of Duchacek's speech. However, the People's Party organs went ahead and printed the text of the speech in full and are now awaiting further reactions.



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