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COUNTRY Germany/U.S.S.R./Poland

DATE DISTR. 10 March 1952

SUBJECT Polish Interpretation of Soviet Plans

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1. Polish Communists are said to be alarmed by improvements in the quantity and quality of Western propaganda and by the great extent to which the Voice of America is listened to in Poland. The Politburo held an extraordinary meeting, attended by all provincial secretaries and some district secretaries, at which the following lines were laid down to counteract current Western propaganda:
 - a. The Soviet Union does not want a war and will not start one, but the Communists will do everything short of war to bring about the economic collapse of the West. The Communist countries must be strong in order to give assistance to the revolutions which will result from this collapse.
 - b. It is emphasized that the spectre of increasing German power is due to the efforts of the United States. Only Stalin is opposing the revival of the German military machine.
 - c. The Russians are willing to approve the withdrawal of the occupation forces from Germany, provided that Germany will accept a position as a buffer (neutralized) state between East and West.
 - d. The forthcoming Moscow economic conference will show the necessity for the West of increased East-West trade. The United States is causing economic distress in Western Europe by blockading the eastern powers.
 - e. It is asserted that there will be no war unless the United States causes it. An effort will be made to induce the United States to accelerate its mass production of weapons and to overstock current types of arms, so that by 1960 the United States will be burdened with obsolete arms and thus the Soviet Union will achieve superiority.
2. The principal topics of discussion in Poland at present are American rearmament and the investigation of the Katyn massacre.

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