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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

1 MAR 1982

C-1363/DT-1

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER FOR GENERAL PURPOSE
FORCES, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Soviet Operation/Maintenance of High Technology Military
Equipment (U)

Reference: MG Atkeson, NIO/GPF, note of 18 February 1982, subject: Soviet
High-tech.

1. (U) In response to your request concerning the availability of intelligence reports on Soviet operations and maintenance of their high technology weapon systems, we have reviewed our holdings on the subject.
2. (C) Many of the DIA studies on Soviet weapon systems do address the operation and maintenance of the weapon systems, although, these aspects are generally not discussed in any great detail in the regular weapon system studies. There is, however, one DIA product now available that specifically addresses Soviet maintenance, "Soviet Ground Forces Maintenance" (DDB-1150-2-81, June 1981, SECRET/NOFORN).
3. (C) There is also a six-volume series, "U.S. and Soviet Weapon System Design Practices" (DST-1830S-505-80, Volumes 1-6, 1979-1980, CONFIDENTIAL), that addresses maintenance, reliability and other aspects related to Soviet operability and maintainability of their weapon systems.
4. (U) In addition, there are two relevant DIA studies that are scheduled for publication and distribution during the April-June 1982 time frame:
 - a. (U) "Overview of Soviet Aircraft Reliability and Maintainability" (DST-1300R-075-82).
 - b. (U) "Reliability and Maintainability Analysis of Specific Soviet Aircraft" (A DST-1300R series report - specific number unassigned at this date).
5. (C) As was pointed out in the referenced note, the Soviets are moving to the increasing use of more advanced technologies in their weapon system developments, and might be expected to encounter more operations/maintenance problems as they do so. There are several factors, however, that will probably reduce such problems, just as they have done in the past:
 - a. (C) Standardization - There is still a conscious effort on the part of the Soviets to use available technology as much as possible, so that we

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Declassify on _____
Review on 25 February 1988

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DIA review completed.

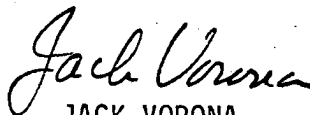
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continue to see considerable multiple use of the same components and sub-systems on a number of different weapon systems. This should help to ease the Soviets' maintenance, logistics and training problems.

b. (C) Maintenance Philosophy - The Soviets still design their systems for a rather short, but relatively low maintenance period with routinely scheduled factory or depot maintenance, as opposed to emphasis on repairs at the lowest organizational level possible. This limits their need for skilled manpower, although overall, it is a more labor intensive approach. It also reduces the Soviets' need for supply support.

6. (U) The referenced studies do elaborate on the above noted aspects, as well as other factors related to the reliability, operability and maintainability of Soviet weapon systems. Hopefully, they will be useful in providing information on Soviet practices and problems in this area. If DIA can be of further assistance, please feel free to call on us.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:



JACK VORONA
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Intelligence

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