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CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

March 14, 1981

SPECIAL ANALYSIS

USSR-POLAND: Warsaw Pact Exercise

[REDACTED]

*Soyuz-81, the Warsaw Pact exercise centered on Poland, is expected to begin on Monday. There are no signs of the kinds of preparations in the western USSR we would expect if the Soviets were planning to use the exercise as a cover for a large-scale military intervention in Poland.* [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This [REDACTED] would be adequate to control a Warsaw Pact invasion of Poland, but the combat forces for such an invasion are not ready.

[REDACTED]

Nevertheless, [REDACTED] fewer tasks remain to be accomplished before Warsaw Pact forces could move into Poland. Several Soviet divisions in the western USSR have practiced mobilization procedures in the past six months and could be expected to execute them more rapidly this time. Other units, such as the Soviet airborne divisions in the western USSR and the Soviet ground force divisions already stationed in Central Europe, would require little additional preparation.

[REDACTED]

The Soviets do not appear to be using Soyuz-81 as a cover for intervention in Poland, but they could take advantage of the exercise to prepare and direct an intervention if, in the Soviet view, events in Poland warrant it. Holding such a large exercise in Poland at this time also will reinforce Soviet warnings to Polish civil and military authorities to begin reversing the loss of party control there. Press reports of the exercise and the visibility of the field maneuvers in Poland also will serve as an additional warning to Solidarity to moderate its behavior. [REDACTED]