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THE CZECHOSLOVAKS ARE PLANNING TO REQUEST A LOAN FROM THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF).

PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK IS ARGUING FOR ITS USE ON SHORT-TERM PROJECTS THAT PAY OFF QUICKLY AND WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THE CZECHOSLOVAK CROWN FREELY CONVERTIBLE IN THE WEST, A PROJECT WHICH CERNIK BELIEVES SHOULD HAVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY. ON THE OTHER SIDE, OFFICIALS REPRESENTING MINISTRIES ENGAGED IN "PUBLIC WORKS" PROJECTS PREFER TO USE THE MONEY FOR LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENTS, PARTICULARLY ON THE COUNTRY'S HIGHWAY AND RAIL NET.

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STATE/INR NMCC/MC PAGE 1 OF SECDEF ARMY AIRI CIA/NMCC BIC TREASURY NIC NSA SDO DD1 OER This muse, is our total of firmation affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title Sec., in Fig. 1981, he imposmission or reveisition of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. FBIS THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. DIST 9 MAY 1968 COUNTRY CZECHOSLOVAKIA/SOVIET UNION DOI REPORTED SOVIET OFFER OF CREDITS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA SUBJECT CZECH PLANS TO APPLY FOR INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND LOAN, 5(c) 3.4(b)(1) ACQ FIELD NO. SOURCE 1. 1.5(c) 3.4(b)(1) THE SOVIET UNION HAS MADE AN OFFER OF "SUBSTANTIAL" CREDITS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. COMMENT: IN A "NEW YORK TIMES" ARTICLE OF 1 MAY 1968, DAVID BINDER REPORTED THE OFFER OF A 400 MILLION DOLLAR SOVIET LOAN TO THE CZECHOSLOVAKS, SUPPOSEDLY TO COMPENSATE FOR BAD FEELING CREATED WHEN THE SOVIETS CANCELLED A QUARTERLY WHEAT DELIVERY TO THE CZECHOSLOVAKS.) APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1.5(c) AUG 3.4(b)(1) 1999