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3. POLAND: MILITARY PRECAUTIONS TAKEN IN THE AREA BORDERING LITHUANIA

FATIC (08 FEB 91) REPORTED:

P.A. Sub-Registry

File N° 19-10-01 (Poland)

A. (NC) ACCORDING TO AN AS YET UNCONFIRMED INFORMATION THE OPERATIONS DIVISION OF THE POLISH GENERAL STAFF HAS PREPARED AN OPERATIONS PLAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BALTIC AREA THAT ENVISAGES THE DEPLOYMENT OF APPROX. 10,000 SOLDIERS TO THE POLISH/LITHUANIAN BORDERS IF THE CONFLICT IN LITHUANIA SHOULD ESCALATE TO CIVIL WAR-LIKE UNREST. DEPLOYMENT AND REDEPLOYMENT OF MECHANIZED FORCES SHOULD THEN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN TWO OR THREE DAYS. AT THIS TIME ALREADY, INCREASED ALERT AND COMBAT READINESS HAD BEEN IMPOSED ON SIX MOTOR-RIFLE BN'S LOCATED IN BORDER-ADJACENT AREAS.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS PLAN IS SAID

- TO PREVENT UNCONTROLLED MASS FLIGHT MOVEMENTS TO POLAND, AND,
- TO PREVENT SPREADING OF A POTENTIAL CIVIL WAR IN THE BALTIC REGION TO POLISH TERRITORY.

B. (NC) BOTH POLISH BORDER GUARDS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL EARMARKED FOR BORDER PROTECTION ARE SAID TO BE ORDERED TO PERMIT REFUGEES ACCESS TO POLAND IN SPECIAL CASES ONLY.

C. (NC) **ASSESSMENT BY FATIC:** POLAND HAS ASSUMED A CONFLICTING ATTITUDE REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE BALTIC REGION. ON THE ONE HAND IT PROVIDES POLITICAL SUPPORT TO THE LITHUANIAN STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM WHICH INCLUDES SOLIDARITY EVEN WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCOMMODATION OF REFUGEES. ON THE OTHER HAND, POLAND WILL MOST LIKELY SEEK TO AVOID ESCALATION OF CRISIS DEVELOPMENTS TO POLISH TERRITORY. THE POLISH GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN ON THIS BECAME EVIDENT IN SEVERAL CASES. IN THIS RESPECT, STAGING OF REGULAR MILITARY FORCES ALONG THE BORDER WITH LITHUANIA MIGHT IN FACT BE PREPLANNED TO COUNTER TRESPASSES BY SOVIET SECURITY FORCES IN CASE OF CIVIL WAR IN THE BALTIC REGION, FOR INSTANCE IF REFUGEES OR LITHUANIAN MILITIA FORCES WERE TRACKED INTO POLISH TERRITORY. THIS MEASURE WOULD ALSO BE IN LINE WITH THE BASICALLY PLANNED REORGANIZATION OF POLISH MILITARY FORCES AS A RESULT OF THE NEW DEFENSIVE DOCTRINE.

D. (NC) MEASURES TO ENSURE INCREASED SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE EASTERN BORDER IN VIEW OF THE SOVIET DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION (REFUGEES, ILLEGAL BORDER CROSSINGS BY CRIMINALS ETC), BECAME ALSO KNOWN FROM THE CSFR, ALTHOUGH THE EXTENT OF SUCH MEASURES IS BY FAR LOWER THAN THAT REPORTED FROM POLAND.

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