

NATO SITUATION CENTRE  
CENTRE DE SITUATION OTAN

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FM LONDON  
TO AIG 6006  
AIG 6007  
BT

COMCENTRE NAC/MC

Number: 094

Date : 27 MARCH 1981

NATO SECRET

IMMEDIATE

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(Poland)

NADA/ASSESSMENT/MAR 009/JIC/271155Z  
THE FOLLOWING IS AN ASSESSMENT BY JIC  
POLAND; MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

1. AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF A DETERIORATING SITUATION IN POLAND, THE SOVIET AND POLISH AUTHORITIES ARE MAKING CONTINGENCY PREPARATIONS TO IMPROVE THEIR MILITARY PREPAREDNESS.
2. THE SOYUZ-81 EXERCISE PROBABLY FINISHED ON 25 MARCH. SOME OF THE STRUCTURE SUPPORTING THE EXERCISE MAY HOWEVER REMAIN IN THE FIELD FOR SEVERAL MORE DAYS AND COULD BE USED TO AUGMENT CURRENT CONTINGENCY PLANS RELATING TO THE POLISH SITUATION.
3. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF ANY TROOP DEPLOYMENTS OR MOBILISATION ACTIVITY IN THE WESTERN USSR ON THE LINES OBSERVED LAST AUTUMN. THESE MEASURES WOULD BE ESSENTIAL BEFORE ANY SIGNIFICANT SOVIET MOVE INTO POLAND. WE WOULD EXPECT PREPARATIONS FOR A SOVIET INVASION WITH UP TO TWENTY DIVISIONS TO TAKE AT LEAST THREE DAYS TO PREPARE ; AND WE SHOULD GET WARNING OF SUCH PREPARATIONS WITHIN 24 HOURS.
4. THE SOVIET UNION MAY THUS BE TAKING STEPS TO PERFECT ITS INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENABLE IT TO MOVE FORCES SWIFTLY INTO POLAND SHOULD A DECISION TO INTERVENE BE TAKEN; BUT WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF THE PREPARATION OF GROUND FORCES, WHICH IS THE OTHER ESSENTIAL PRELIMINARY TO SUCH ACTION.

BT

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