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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

29 July 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : William W. Wells
Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT : AGREEMENT Between the Government of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the
Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist
Republic on the Conditions of the Temporary
Stay of Soviet Troops on the Territory of
the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

1. The enclosed Intelligence Information Special Report is a translation from Russian of the Agreement signed in October 1968 between the USSR and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic regulating the conditions of the temporary stay of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia. The main articles of the Agreement deal with the expenses to be borne by Czechoslovakia in maintaining these Soviet troops, criminal jurisdiction, damages inflicted on both sides, and compensation for these damages.

2. Because the source of this report is extremely sensitive, this document should be handled on a strict need-to-know basis within recipient agencies.

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Intelligence Information Special Report

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COUNTRY USSR/CZECHOSLOVAKIA

DATE OF
INFO. 1968

[Redacted]
DATE 29 July 1977

SUBJECT

AGREEMENT Between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on the Conditions of the Temporary Stay of Soviet Troops on the Territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

The following report is a translation from Russian of the Agreement signed in October 1968 between the USSR and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic regulating the conditions of the temporary stay of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia. The main articles of the Agreement deal with the expenses to be borne by Czechoslovakia in maintaining these Soviet troops, criminal jurisdiction, damages inflicted on both sides, and compensation for these damages. This unique status of forces agreement governing Soviet military forces in Czechoslovakia is apparently still in effect in 1977.

End of Summary

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AGREEMENT

Between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on the Conditions of the Temporary Stay of Soviet Troops on the Territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

Firmly resolved to devote all efforts to strengthen friendship and collaboration between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Czechoslovakia, as well as among all countries of the socialist commonwealth, and to protect the achievements of socialism, and strengthen peace and security in Europe and in all the world in accordance with the Statement of the Bratislava Conference of 3 August 1968,

Taking into consideration the agreement on friendship, mutual assistance, and postwar collaboration of 12 December 1943, extended by the Protocol of 27 November 1963,

In accordance with the understanding achieved in the course of Soviet-Czechoslovak negotiations, which took place in Moscow on 23-26 August and 3-4 October 1968,

have resolved to conclude the present Agreement and have agreed to the following:

Article 1

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, acting with the consent of the Governments of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, have agreed that a portion of Soviet troops located in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, is to temporarily remain on the territory

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of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for the purposes of ensuring the security of the countries of the socialist commonwealth from the mounting revanchist aspirations of West German militarist forces.

The remaining troops of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as well as the troops of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, and the Polish People's Republic, in accordance with the documents of the Moscow negotiations of 23-26 August and 3-4 October 1968, shall be withdrawn from the territory of Czechoslovakia. The removal of these troops shall begin after ratification by both parties of the present Agreement and shall be implemented by stages in the course of two months.

The number and places of garrisoning of Soviet troops temporarily remaining on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, are to be determined by agreement between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Soviet troops, temporarily located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, are to remain in subordination to the Soviet Military Command.

Article 2

1. The temporary stay of Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic does not violate its sovereignty. Soviet troops are not to interfere in the internal affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. The Soviet forces, the persons in their complement, and the members of the families of these persons, located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, shall observe the laws in effect in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Article 3

1. The Soviet Side shall bear the expenses of maintaining Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is to provide the Soviet forces, the persons in their complement, and the members of the families of these persons, for the period of their temporary stay in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic with barracks and housing in military

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posts, official building space, storage premises, and other accommodations, airfields with fixed structures and equipment, means from the state communications and transport network, electricity, and other services.

Training grounds, firing ranges, and training fields are to be used jointly with the Czechoslovak People's Army.

The procedure and conditions for the use of enumerated installations, as well as public, commercial, and other services will be specified as agreed to by the Contracting Parties.

Article 4

Soviet military units, persons in the complement of the Soviet forces, and members of the families of these persons, can travel into the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the place of garrisoning of the Soviet troops and out of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic both in through trains and coaches belonging to the Soviet Union and also by transferring from the coaches of one country to those of the other country as well as by motor vehicle and air transport.

Persons in the complement of the Soviet forces and members of the families of these persons are to be exempt from passport or visa control during entry into, sojourn in, and departure from the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The points and procedure for crossing the Soviet-Czech border, the methods of controlling, as well as the types and forms of appropriate documents, are to be specified as agreed to by the Contracting Parties.

Article 5

The Czechoslovak Side agrees to admit across the state borders of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic without the imposition of duties, or customs or border examinations:

- Soviet forces and the persons in their complement, that are proceeding in the complement of military units, subunits, and parties;
- all military cargo, including cargo designated for the post exchange and everyday services of Soviet troops;

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-- persons in the complement of Soviet forces proceeding into the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and departing from the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic singly or together with members of their families and with articles for their personal use, upon presentation to the customs organs of documents on the right to cross the state borders of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The items, equipment, and combat equipment brought into the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic by the Soviet Side may be removed to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics without the imposition or collection of duties.

Article 6

1. Post exchange and everyday services of the personnel of the Soviet troops temporarily located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and of the members of the families of persons in the complement of the Soviet forces, will be carried out through Soviet post exchange and everyday services enterprises.

2. The Czechoslovak Side shall supply Soviet post exchange and everyday services enterprises with goods in the quantities agreed upon between the competent trade organizations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, at the state retail prices in effect in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and with the granting of the trade discount customary for the corresponding trade enterprises of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Payments for the supplies are to be made in the currency of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

3. The Czechoslovak Side, in accordance with the contracts concluded between appropriate Soviet and Czechoslovak foreign trade organizations and according to the prices in effect in the trade relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, will supply foodstuffs and industrial goods, including fuel (coal, coke, firewood) in the agreed-upon amounts for the planned supply of the Soviet troops.

Article 7

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic will give the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the necessary sums in

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? Czechoslovak crowns for the expenditures connected with the temporary stay of Soviet troops on the territory of Czechoslovakia. The amount of these sums will be established by an understanding between the competent organs of the Contracting Parties.

Article 8

The procedure for computing the services, provided for in Article 3, and also for the sums in Czechoslovak crowns to be given in accordance with Article 7 of the present Agreement, will be established by a supplementary Agreement between the Contracting Parties one and one-half months after the present Agreement has been put into effect. Conversion into rubles of the indicated sums in Czechoslovak crowns will be done based on the relationship of the internal prices and rates of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and foreign trade prices.

Article 9

Matters of jurisdiction associated with the temporary stay of Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic are to be regulated in the following manner:

1. For criminal acts and misdemeanors committed by persons in the complement of Soviet forces, or by members of their families, on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Czechoslovak law is to be applicable and Czechoslovak courts, procurators, and other Czechoslovak organs having jurisdiction in the prosecution of punishable acts, are to take action.

Criminal acts committed by Soviet servicemen are to be investigated by the judge advocate's office and tried by the military justice organs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. The provisions of the first paragraph of this article do not apply:

a) in the case where crimes or misdemeanors are committed by persons in the complement of Soviet forces, or by members of their families, only against the Soviet Union as well as against persons in the complement of Soviet forces or against members of their families;

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b) in the case where crimes or misdemeanors are committed by persons in the complement of Soviet forces while performing their official duties in the garrisoning areas of military units.

For the acts indicated in subparagraphs "a" and "b", Soviet courts, procurators, and other organs acting on the basis of Soviet law are to have jurisdiction.

3. In cases where punishable acts are committed against Soviet forces temporarily located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic as well as against persons in their complement, the persons guilty of this will incur the same responsibility as for punishable acts against the armed forces of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and persons in their complement.

4. The competent Soviet and Czechoslovak organs can request from each other the transfer or acceptance of jurisdiction with respect to the individual cases provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article. Such requests are to receive favorable consideration.

5. The competent Soviet and Czechoslovak organs will render to each other mutual legal assistance and all other types of assistance in the investigation of the punishable acts mentioned in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this Article.

Article 10

1. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to compensate the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for material damage which may be inflicted on the Czechoslovak State by the actions or omissions of Soviet military units or persons in their complement, as well as for damage which may be done by Soviet military units or by persons in their complement while performing official duties to Czechoslovak citizens or installations and to third-country citizens located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, in both cases in the amounts established (based on the claims made and with due regard for Czechoslovak law) by the Commissioners for Matters of the Temporary Stay of Soviet Troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, these Commissioners being appointed in accordance with Article 13 of this agreement.

Disputes which may arise out of the obligations of Soviet military units are to be subjected to an inquiry on the same basis.

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2. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics also agrees to compensate the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for damages which may be inflicted on Czechoslovak organizations and citizens, and also on third-country citizens located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, as a result of the actions or omissions committed not in the performance of official duties by persons in the complement of Soviet forces and also as a result of the actions or omissions of the members of the families of persons in the complement of Soviet forces, in both cases in the amounts established by the Czechoslovak courts having jurisdiction on the basis of the claims made against the persons causing the damage.

Article 11

1. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic agrees to compensate the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for damage which may be inflicted on the property of Soviet military units temporarily located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and on persons in the complement of Soviet forces by the actions or omissions of Czechoslovak state organizations in the amounts determined by the Commissioners for Matters of the Temporary Stay of Soviet Troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on the basis of the claims made and with due regard for Czechoslovak law.

Disputes which may arise out of the obligations of Czechoslovak state organizations to Soviet military units are to be subjected to an inquiry on the same basis.

2. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic also agrees to compensate the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for damages which may be inflicted on Soviet military units temporarily located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, on persons in the complement of Soviet forces, and on members of the families of these persons, as a result of the actions and omissions of Czechoslovak citizens, in the amounts established by Czechoslovak courts on the basis of the claims made against the persons causing the damages.

Article 12

The compensation for damages as provided for in Articles 10 and 11 will be effected by the Parties within three months after the day a decision is rendered by the Commissioners for Affairs of the Temporary Stay of Soviet Troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic or after the

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judgement of a court comes into effect.

The payment of the sums that are due to the persons, units, and organizations that have suffered will be made by competent organs of the sides: in cases covered by Article 10, by Czechoslovak organs; in cases covered by Article 11, by Soviet organs.

Article 13

For the purpose of appropriately regulating routine matters connected with the temporary stay of Soviet troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic are to appoint their own Commissioners for Affairs of the Temporary Stay of Soviet Troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Article 14

1. In the interpretation of this Agreement:

"a person in the complement of Soviet forces" is:

- a) a serviceman of the Soviet Army;
- b) a civilian person who is a Soviet citizen and working in a unit of the Soviet forces temporarily located on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. "Members of the families of persons in the complement of Soviet forces" are:

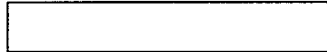
- a) spouses,
- b) unmarried children,
- c) close relatives that are dependent on these persons.

3. "Place of garrisoning" is the territory set aside by the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic or local organs of authority and placed at the disposal of the Soviet forces to include the places where military units are disposed.

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Article 15

This agreement comes into effect after it is ratified by both Parties and will be in force during the time Soviet troops are temporarily found on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The agreement can be modified with the consent of the Contracting Parties.

Concluded in the city of Prague on " " October 1968 in two original copies, each in the Russian and Czech languages with both texts having equal force.

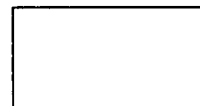
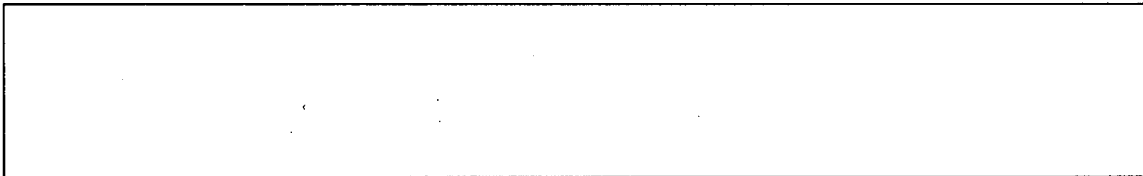
CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS

CHAIRMAN OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

A. KOSYGIN

O. CHERNIK

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