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Collection: Executive Secretariat, NSC: Country

File: Records, 1981-1985

Folder Title: Soviet Bloc Economic and Financial

Situation Update: (04/29/1982)

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Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: COUNTRY FILE Withdrawer

KDB 8/25/2015

File Folder SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION UPDATES (4/29/82)

FOR A DOZ/5

F03-002/5

Box Number 19 SKINNER

Box Number 19			111			
ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages		Restrictions		
168858 MEMO	N. BAILEY TO W. CLARK: SOVIET BLO ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION: UPDATE #20	C 2	4/29/1982	B1		
168859 REPORT	RE USSR GRAIN PURCHASES PAR 10/12/2010 CREST/748-19-34	1 -2-8	ND	B1		
168860 CABLE	RE USSR	3	4/26/1982	B1		
68861 CABLE	281950Z APR 82	1	4/28/1982	B1		
68862 CABLE	RE USSR	3	4/27/1982	B1		
68863 CABLE	282115Z APR 82	1	4/28/1982	B1		

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION

UPDATES (4/29/82)

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221615Z APR 82 PAR 10/28/2009 CRES	1 4/22/1982 B1 B3 ST NLR-19-34-11-8
282128Z APR 82	1 4/28/1982 B1
282107Z APR 82	1 4/28/1982 B1
	3 4/27/1982 B1
	RE USSR RE USSR 221615Z APR 82 PAR 10/28/2009 CRES 282128Z APR 82

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N. BAILEY TO W. CLARK: SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION: UPDATE #20

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168859 REPORT

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RE USSR GRAIN PURCHASES

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USSR: Financing Grain Purchases

Moscow so far has raised at least \$1.2 billion in costly shortterm credits to buy Western grain during the marketing year that ends 30 June. (C NF NC PR)

West European, US, and Arab banks have granted the Soviets about \$900 million in short-term financing, and the Australian Wheat Board has approved a government-guaranteed loan of \$170 million to exporters for grain sales to the USSR.

The Soviets have been seeking payback periods of 360 days, but most loans this year have been for 150 days, and none has exceeded 180 days. They have had to pay commercial interest rates exceeding 15 percent. (C NF NC)

Comment: Most of the new short-term credits will be used from July through September, when the Soviets are likely to buy some 11 million tons of grain for roughly \$1.5 billion. As long as the Soviets continue to make payments upon demand, they should be able to obtain additional credits.

Many of the existing notes will come due this summer. If the prices of gold and oil—the main sources of Soviet hard currency earnings—stay at depressed levels, however, the Soviets may be forced to refinance some of these high-cost loans. (C)

MORI/CDF per C05184606

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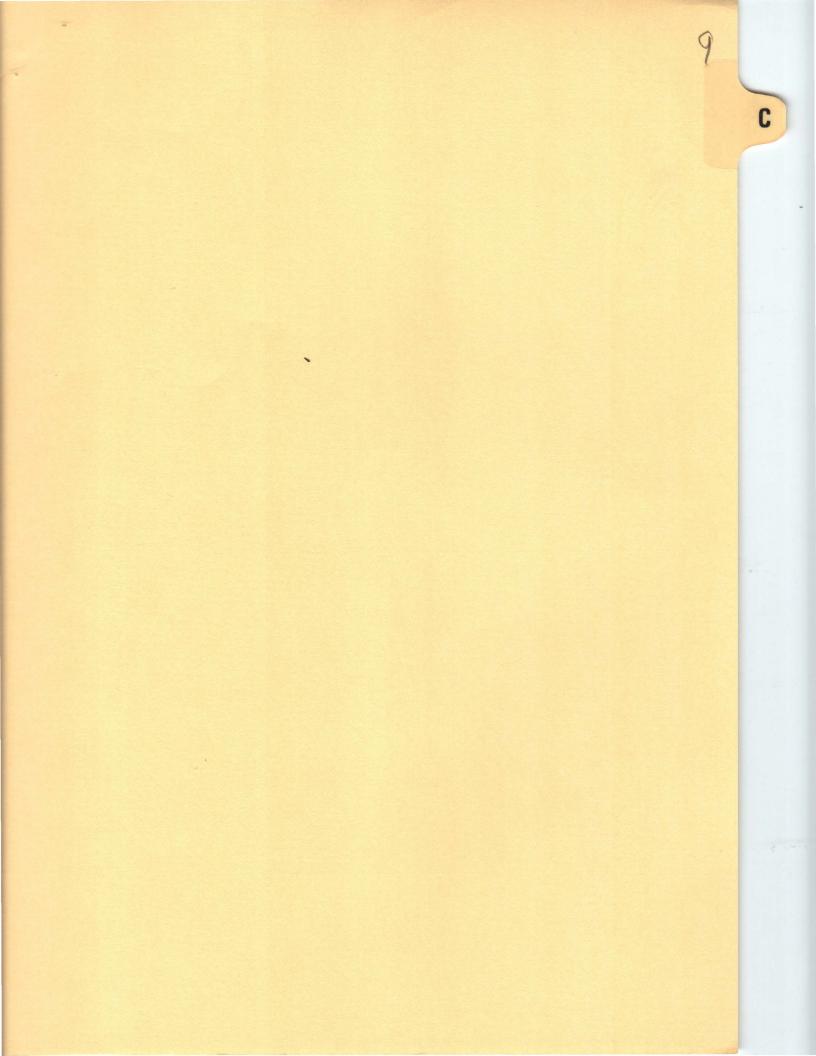
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USSR: Industrial Output

Soviet industry grew less during the first quarter of this year than any comparable time since World War II. (0)

The Central Statistical Administration's report issued last week indicates that civilian industrial output was only 0.6 percent above that achieved for the comparable period last year, and labor productivity did not grow at all. In four of the 10 major industrial categories, including ferrous and nonferrous metals, construction materials, and soft goods, production ranged from 0.5 to 5 percent below levels of 1981. Metals shortages have been cited by the press as the main problem affecting the civilian machinery sector, which grew by only 2 percent.

Natural gas production increased nearly 7 percent and electric power 2.8 percent. Oil and coal output, however, were virtually unchanged from last year.

Comment: Moscow will be deeply concerned about the slowing rate of industrial growth, which could hurt investment, consumer, and even defense programs. The poor harvest in 1981, for example, ensures continued stagnation or possibly a decline in the food and soft goods industries through at least mid-1982, while continued shortfalls in metals and machinery production may force further revisions to investment plans.

Industry's poor performance could receive considerable attention at the party plenum, which may be held next month. Some improvement is likely by the end of this year, and industrial production may grow some 1 to 1.5 percent during the year as a whole, but this still would be a record postwar low. (C)

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DIADIN 112-1A (AS OF: 1000 EST 22 APR 82) SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN) (U)

SITUATION UPDATE.

- 1. (C/WHINTEL/NOFORN/NOCONTRACT) IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY WARSAW WILL BE ABLE TO MEET THE 10 MAY DEBT PAYMENT REQUIRED BY THE 1981 COMMERCIAL DEBT RESCHEDULING AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH SOME PAYMENTS CONTINUE TO FLOW FROM POLAND TO THE WEST, THEY ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO COVER ALL INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL DUE IN 1982 AND ROLLOVER PAYMENTS FROM THE 1981 DEBT.
- 2. (C/WNINTEL/NOFORN/NOCONTRACT) IN AN ATTEMPT TO INCREASE HARD CURRENCY EARNINGS TO ALLEVIATE SOME OF ITS WESTERN DEBT, WARSAW REDUCED IMPORTS AND RAN A TRADE SURPLUS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1982. HOWEVER, SEVERE SHORTAGES IN ESSENTIAL RAW MATERIALS HAVE SERIOUSLY REDUCED INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, CAUSING FURTHER HARM TO. AN ALREADY CRIPPLED ECONOMY. THE REGIME'S RESPONSE HAS BEEN TO INCREASE ITS PRODUCTION LEVELS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.
 TACTIC MEANS THE COUNTRY WILL HAVE SERIOUS DIFFICULTY IN ACCUMULATING HARDCURRENCYWITH WHICH TO SERVICE OUTSTANDING LOANS.
- (CANOFORN) IN SHORT, POLAND'S LACK OF A TRADE SURPLUS COULD INDICATE THAT IT HAS DECIDED TO FORGO FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL REPAYMENT OF WESTERN COMMERCIAL DEBT IN FAVOR OF SHORT-TERM INTERNAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY. POLISH OFFICIALS, THEREFORE, APPEAR WILLING TO RISK THE RENEWED DISPLEASURE OF WESTERN BANKERS AND SUPPLIERS, WHO WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR LOAN REPAYMENTS AND CAN BE COUNTED ON TO DENY EXTENSION OF MUCH-NEEDED ADDITIONAL CREDITS IF WARSAW PERSISTS IN THIS POLICY.
- 4. (S_NOFORN) IN OTHER POLISH ACTIVITY, THE 4-MONTH ANNIVERSARY OF MARTIAL LAW ON 13 APRIL WAS COMMEMORATED BY VARIOUS PROTESTS, INCLUDING BRIEF WORK STOPPAGES AND SHUTTING DOWN PLANT MACHINERY. THE 4-MONTH ANNIVERSARY ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF ACTUAL PARTICIPANTS WAS NOT EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTHS OF MARTIAL LAW, THE PROTESTS WERE MORE WIDESPREAD. THE LEVEL OF PROTEST ACTIVITY, HOWEVER, IS STILL MANAGEABLE, BUT THE PERSEVERANCE OF LOCAL GROUPS IN MANIFESTING THEIR ANTIREGIME FEELINGS INDICATES THAT THE

POTENTIAL FOR WIDER UNREST REMAINS. PREPARED BY:

REVW 21 APR 127

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168875 REPORT 1 ND B1

RE LIBYA (PAGE 3 ONLY)

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REVENUE LOSS SQUEEZES ECONOMY AND CURTAILS FOREIGN LIBYA: ACTIVITY

REFER TO DOS

Reductions in revenue caused by the continuing world oil glut are increasing Qadhafi's economic difficulties. As construction slows and consumer goods disappear at home, Libya's unpaid foreign debts are mounting. Financial pressures are forcing the Libyan regime to reassess its goals and limit support for subversive activity abroad. DOS REVIEWED 28-Mar-2013: NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE AS SANITIZED

25x1

The National Bank of Ethiopia has not succeeded in prying loose the \$70 million due in March from Libya under the terms of the August 1981 agreement between the two countries. The Libyan People's Bureau in Addis Ababa, which supports subversive activities aimed at Somalia and Sudan, has appealed to Tripoli for funds to cover accumulated debts. Other reports document Libyan financial retrenchment in Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, and Uganda. In contrast, a recent \$400 million loan to Nicaragua may indicate that Qadhafi will try to maintain foreign activities that are of particular interest to him.

Although Libya still has roughly \$6 billion in reserves, it continues to attempt to save foreign exchange by cutting back on: consumer imports and reducing the number of foreign workers in the country. In an effort to dampen demand for imports and to control inflation, salaries of government employees have been reduced. addition, Libyan officials abroad are taking pay cuts.

Unaccustomed austerity is forcing the government to examine closely its development program, and there is evidence that some " projects are being postponed or perhaps canceled. The tight cash flow situation may force Libya to offer its customers additional oil price reductions, either formally or masked by barter arrangements.

> Classified by: L. Paul Bremer III and Hugh Montgomery Review for Declassification on: Extended by: L. Paul Bremer III and Hugh Montgomery Reason for Extension: RDS-2-3

No Objection To Declassification in Part 2013/06/05: NLR-748-19-34-19-0

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National Security Council The White House

Package # 301

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	John Poindexter		<u> </u>	
	Bud McFarlane	2	w.	
	Jacque Hill	3	8	
	Judge Clark	4		7
	John Poindexter	,(
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	I-Information A-Act	tion R-Retain	D-Dispatch	
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KEYWORDS: USSR	ECONOMICS
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ACTION: FOR INFORMATION	DUE: STATUS IX FILES
FOR ACTION CLARK COMMENTS REF#	FOR CONCURRENCE FOR INFO REED GREGG PIPES DOBRIANSKY NAU
ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED Por 1/5/12 5/18 DISPATCH	