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Collection: Executive Secretariat, NSC: Country
File: Records, 1981-1985
Folder Title: Soviet Bloc Economic and Financial
Situation Update: (05/28/1982)
Box: RAC Box 19

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: COUNTRY FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 8/27/2015

File Folder SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION
UPDATES (5/28/82)

FOIA

F03-002/5

Box Number 19

SKINNER

116

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
168943	MEMO	W. MARTIN THROUGH N. BAILEY TO W. CLARK: SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION UPDATE #24 PAR 1/22/2013 CREST NLR-748-19-39-1-4	5	5/28/1982	B1
168944	REPORT	RE SOVIET ECONOMIC REFORM (PAGES III-V ONLY) R 1/13/2012 CREST NLR-748-19-39-7-3	3	5/1/1982	B1
168945	CABLE	RE USSR	4	5/24/1982	B1
168946	CABLE	RE SOVIETS	3	5/26/1982	B1
168947	CABLE	RE USSR	2	5/21/1982	B1
168948	CABLE	RE USSR	3	5/26/1982	B1
168949	CABLE	251226Z MAY 82	1	5/25/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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168950	CABLE	RE USSR	2	5/22/1982	B1
168951	CABLE	251335Z MAY 82	1	5/25/1982	B1
168952	REPORT	RE USSR (PAGE 5 ONLY)	1	5/25/1982	B1
168953	CABLE	220020Z MAY 82 D 9/16/2013 CREST NLR-748-19-39-4-1	3	5/22/1982	B1
168954	CABLE	191544Z MAY 82 D 9/16/2013 CREST NLR-748-19-39-5-0	3	5/19/1982	B1
168955	REPORT	RE USSR (PAGES III-IV ONLY)	2	5/1/1982	B1
168956	CABLE	251315Z MAY 82	1	5/25/1982	B1

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
168957	REPORT	(EXCERPT)	1	5/25/1982	B1
168958	CABLE	251307Z MAY 82	1	5/25/1982	B1
168959	CABLE		2	5/24/1982	B1
168960	CABLE	242254Z MAY 82 PAR 9/24/1982 CREST NLR-748-19-39-8-7	1	5/24/1982	B1
168961	CABLE	192138Z MAY 82 D 9/16/2013 CREST NLR-19-39-9-6	1	5/19/1982	B1
168962	CABLE	201650Z MAY 82	2	5/20/1982	B1
168963	CABLE	251808Z MAY 82	1	5/25/1982	B1

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168964	CABLE	251231Z MAY 82	1	5/25/1982	B1
168965	CABLE	232341Z MAY 82 PAR 4/8/2013 CREST NLR-748-19-39-24-9	2	5/24/1982	B1
168966	CABLE		3	5/25/1982	B1

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168943 MEMO

5 5/28/1982 B1

W. MARTIN THROUGH N. BAILEY TO W. CLARK:
SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL
SITUATION UPDATE #24

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~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM

3766

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

May 28, 1982

~~TOP SECRET/CODEWORD~~

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. CLARK

THROUGH: NORMAN A. BAILEY *715*

FROM: WILLIAM F. MARTIN *WFM*

SUBJECT: Soviet Bloc Economic and Financial
Situation Update #24

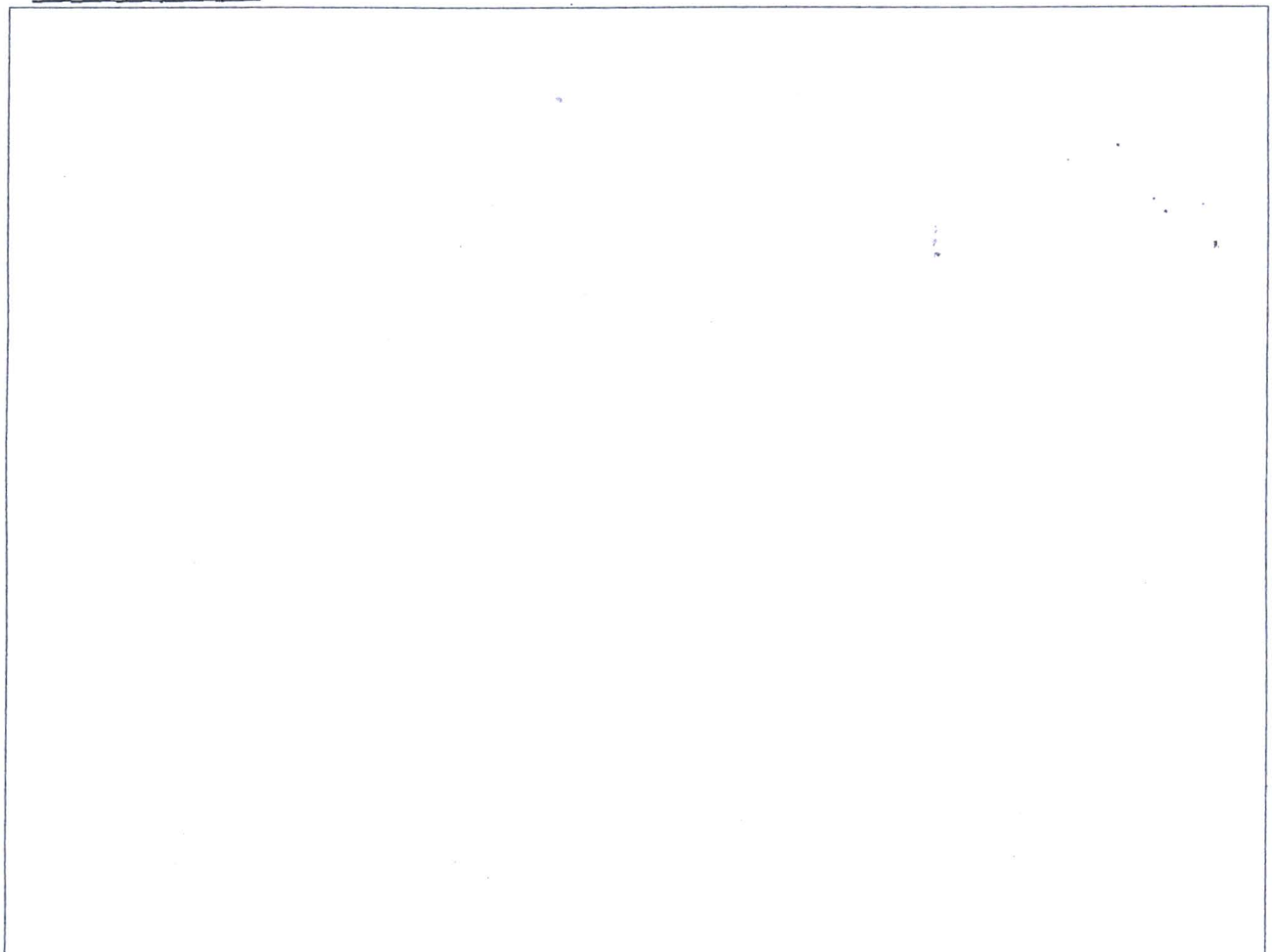
WPC HAS SEEN

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLR 748-19-39-1-4

BY *608* NARA DATE *8/3/05*

Soviet Union



25X

~~TOP SECRET/CODEWORD~~

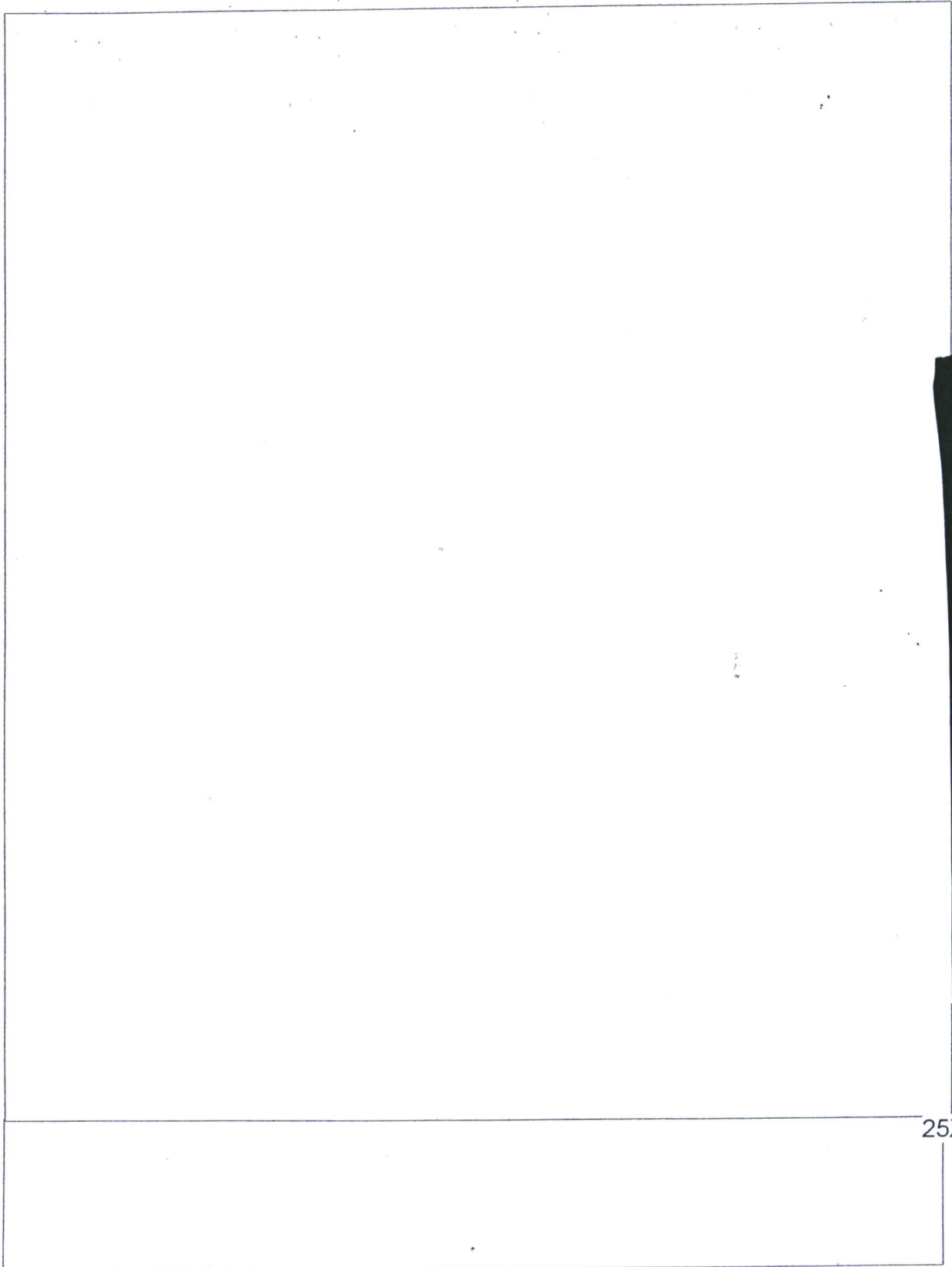
Review May 22, 2012

Derivative Classification by

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET/CODEWORD

2



25X

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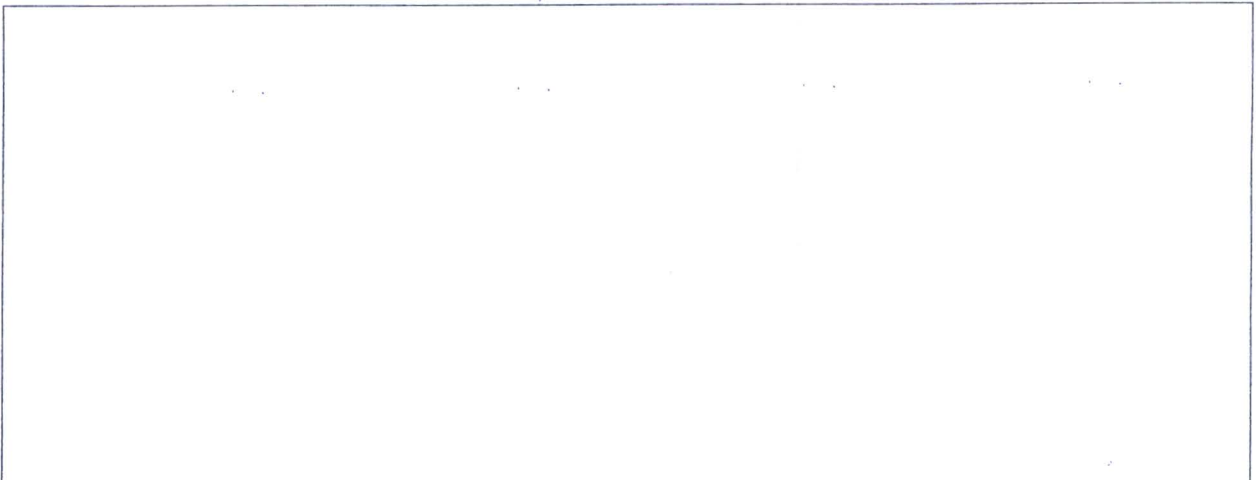
25X1

TOP SECRET/CODEWORD

TOP SECRET/KEYWORD

3

25X1



25X

25X

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25X

-- The May 21 dismissal of Ilie Verdet as Romania's Prime Minister and Cornel Burtica as Minister of Foreign Trade is an admission of the government's failure to deal effectively with Romania's chronic economic shortcomings (Tab Q). (C)

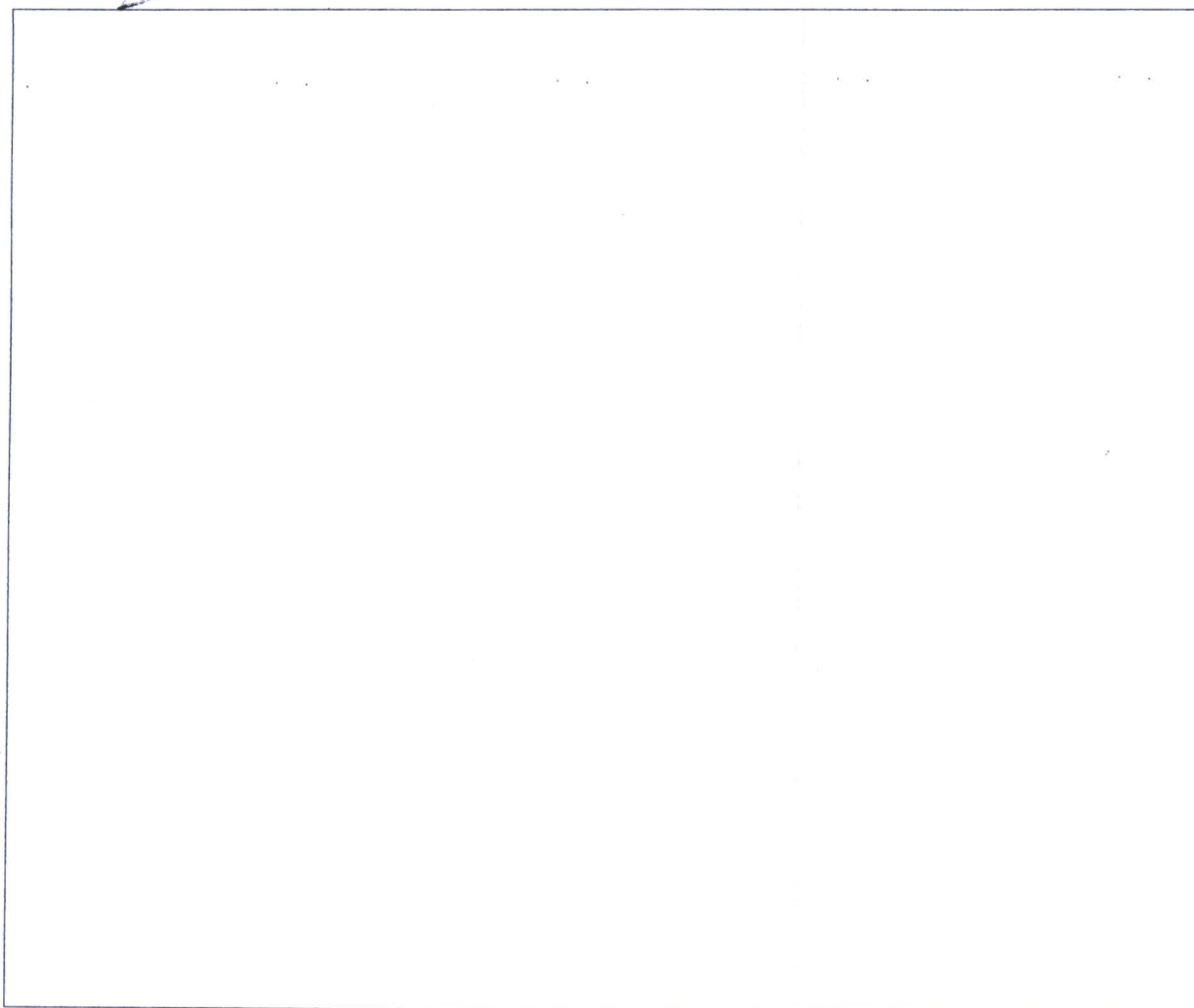


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TOP SECRET/KEYWORD

TOP SECRET/CODEWORD

4



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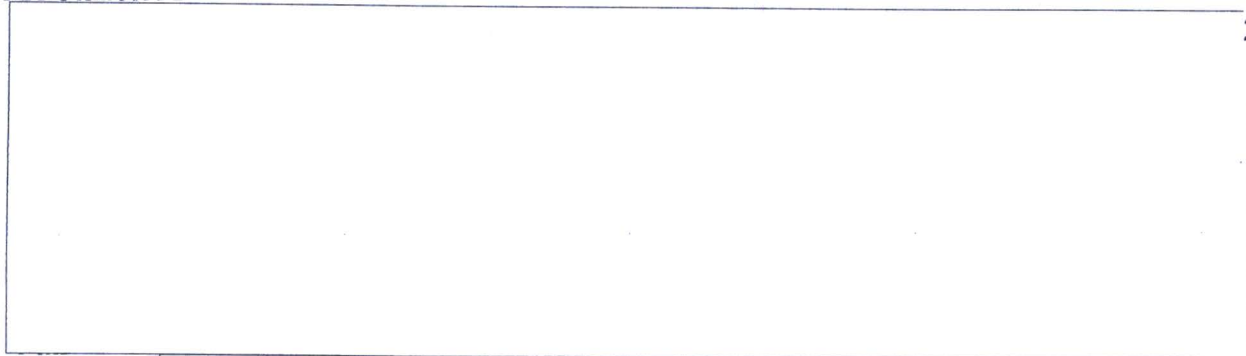
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-- Norway's Prime Minister Willock is planning to make a statement at the Bonn NATO Summit emphasizing the role Norway's natural gas reserves can play in minimizing the need for further European reliance on gas from the Soviet Union (Tab X). (c)

Attachments



25X1

Tab J

25X1

TOP SECRET/CODEWORD

5

~~TOP SECRET/CODEWORD~~

5

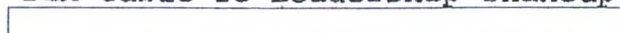
Tab K



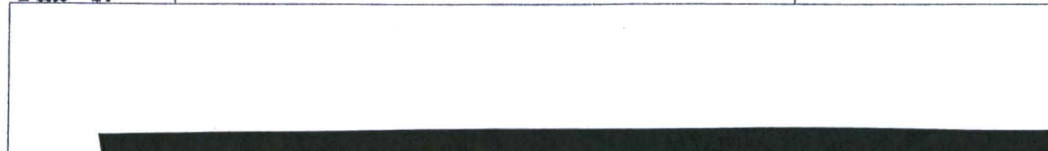
25X1

Tab Q DIA Cable re Leadership Shakeup in Romania

Tab R



25X1



25X

Tab X State Cable re Norwegian Statement on Energy

cc: Tom Reed
Don Gregg
Richard Pipes
Henry Nau
Paula Dobriansky

~~TOP SECRET/CODEWORD~~

~~Confidential~~ 6

168949

Soviet Economic "Reform"

Decrees: More Steps on the Treadmill (U)

Overview

In July 1979 the Soviet leadership issued a decree setting forth new measures to improve planning and performance of the economy. This decree, together with its more than 80 implementing regulations and a July 1981 amendment, is no more likely than its predecessor of October 1965 to raise the economy's efficiency. Indeed, by forcing managers to spend more time coping with increasingly complicated regulations, the latest "reforms" may make matters worse.

The principal goals and features of the new arrangements, presumably to be in effect in the 11th Five-Year Plan (1981-85) and beyond, are:

- To improve *planning* by focusing on five-year rather than annual plans and on integrating a few comprehensive programs. All plans are supposed to be "balanced" (in terms of input and output) and to remain stable for the five-year period.
- To link *prices* more with costs by introducing new industrial wholesale prices on 1 January 1982, incorporating in them a new charge for water usage and sharply higher social insurance taxes.
- To replace a major *success criterion*—gross value of output, which leads enterprises to prefer expensive inputs—with another indicator, "normative net output" (average value added).
- To tie enterprise and worker *incentives* to a variety of five-year plan targets, measured in physical units as well as in rubles and focused on raising efficiency and product quality.
- To require all entities—from enterprises to ministries—to *finance* their operations from their own funds and bank credits, rather than receive partial funding from the state budget.
- To make the *investment process* more effective by requiring that approved plans remain unchanged for the five-year period, that all plans be backed with the requisite material and financial resources, and that bank credits rather than customers' funds be used to finance construction in progress.

Many of the new measures are aimed directly at resolving two problems that Soviet planners rightly regard as especially critical—limiting the demand for labor and economizing on the use of fuel and raw materials.

~~Confidential~~SOV 82-10068
May 1982

DECLASSIFIED
Crest
NLRR 112-748-1737-23
BY CN NARA DATE 1/13/12

Because increments to the labor force will decline drastically during the 1980s, the authorities must limit labor demand to supply to keep the growth of wages in line with slower growth in consumer goods and services. This effort is linked to the need to boost labor productivity by squeezing out the "hidden labor reserves" that Soviet planners believe are ubiquitous. The new measures include compilation of regional labor balances, imposition of employment ceilings, tightening of work norms, tying managerial bonuses to meeting plans for labor productivity, allowing firms to keep the wages saved by meeting plans with a reduced work force, and organizing work brigades as a means of imposing group discipline. Although these measures should aid the planners in facing difficult manpower problems, probably the most effective factor will be that extra workers will simply not be there.

Other measures are intended to cope with shortages of critical raw materials that threaten the economy. These measures include a greatly expanded role for plan targets focused on savings on such resources per unit of output, imposition of tighter input reduction norms in physical terms, and directly tying incentives to meeting targets. The new prices will raise the cost of most raw materials, and the shift to net output targets is intended to remove the incentive to maximize the use of intermediate inputs. Most of these measures have advantages but their effectiveness will be severely diminished by the inability of new rules to eliminate the old indicators. There simply are too many conflicting indicators. Also, in an essentially unchanged environment, the response of enterprises to new cost relationships is likely to be sluggish and limited.

Various measures are aimed at improving economic performance in general. The new planning emphases reflect the Soviet planners' *idee fixe* that better plans will guarantee better performance. Eleven of the much touted "comprehensive programs" have been included in the 1981-85 plan. Many more plan balances are being prepared than ever before. An array of new incentive arrangements to improve product quality and a complicated new state certification procedure have been introduced. Still other provisions and organizational rearrangements are designed to solve the perennial problems created by the cumbersome system of distributing material inputs to producers, notably a greater role for contracts and stiffer penalties for violations. A package of financial provisions is aimed at

eliciting more efficient operations everywhere. Finally, new centralized organizational structures have been set up to coordinate several large programs and to oversee the campaign to enforce raw material and energy savings.

The changes in working arrangements do not constitute a genuine reform of the economic system. Rather, they reinforce the traditional features that have wasted resources on a grand scale. Because planning is now more centralized, rigid, and detailed than ever before, the producing unit is more fettered. Producer goods are more tightly rationed; administratively set, average cost-based prices are retained; and Byzantine incentive systems tie rewards and punishments to meeting plan targets expressed in physical units. The modifications of the past two and a half years are no panacea for the Soviet economy. Rather, they move the system away from the decentralization, flexibility, and introduction of market elements, which most Western (and some Soviet) critics believe are needed.

The above information is Confidential.

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168945 CABLE

4 5/24/1982 B1

RE USSR

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168946 CABLE

3 5/26/1982 B1

RE SOVIETS

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168952 REPORT

1 5/25/1982 B1

RE USSR (PAGE 5 ONLY)

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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168953 CABLE

3 5/22/1982 B1

220020Z MAY 82

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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UPDATES (5/28/82)

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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
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168954 CABLE

3 5/19/1982 B1

191544Z MAY 82

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168955	REPORT RE USSR (PAGES III-IV ONLY)	2	5/1/1982	B1

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168956 CABLE

1 5/25/1982 B1

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168957 REPORT

1 5/25/1982 B1

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168958 CABLE

1 5/25/1982 B1

251307Z MAY 82

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168959	CABLE	2	5/24/1982	B1

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168960 CABLE

1 5/24/1982 B1

242254Z MAY 82

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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ NOFORN

DIADIN 144-5A (AS OF: 1600 EDT 24 MAY 82)
SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN) (U)
)
ROMANIA: LEADERSHIP SHAKEUP. (U)
)

1. (C/NOFORN) THE 21 MAY SHAKEUP IN GOVERNMENTAL LEADERSHIP IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESHUFFLE SINCE 1978. THE DISMISSAL OF ILIE VERDET AS PRIME MINISTER AND CORNEL BURTICA AS MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE REMOVES TWO LEADING ADVOCATES OF BUCHAREST'S OPENING ECONOMIC LINKS TO THE WEST.

2. (C/NOFORN) THE APPOINTMENTS OF CONSTANTIN DASCALESU AND NICOLAE CONSTANTIN TO REPLACE VERDET AND BURTICA ARE IMPORTANT FOR SEVERAL REASONS. CONSTANTIN IS ROMANIA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COUNCIL OF MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (CEMA); HIS APPOINTMENT PROBABLY REFLECTS BUCHAREST'S DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE WEST'S GROWING RELUCTANCE TO CONTINUE TO LIBERALLY FUND ROMANIA IN ITS INCREASINGLY VULNERABLE FINANCIAL STATUS. DASCALESU WILL STRENGTHEN HIS CONTROL OVER MINISTERIAL PERSONNEL AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANS, AREAS IN WHICH HE HAS PREVIOUSLY EXERTED SOME INFLUENCE AS PARTY SECRETARY. OWING TO DASCALESU'S REPUTATION AS A FAITHFUL EXECUTOR OF PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL CEAUSESCU'S POLICIES, THE ROMANIAN LEADER LIKELY INTENDS TO TAKE A MORE DIRECT ROLE IN DAY-TO-DAY DECISIONMAKING THROUGH THE PRIME MINISTER.

3. (C/NOFORN) THE DISMISSAL OF VERDET AND BURTICA IS AN ADMISSION OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH ROMANIA'S CHRONIC ECONOMIC SHORTCOMINGS. THEIR FORCED RESIGNATIONS ALSO REFLECT PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S SENSITIVITY TO THE CHARGES OF NEPOTISM: BOTH MEN ARE RELATED TO HIM BY MARRIAGE. THE REMOVAL OF VERDET AND BURTICA, LONGTIME POLITICAL ALLIES OF THE PRESIDENT, UNDERSCORES CEAUSESCU'S SERIOUSNESS IN TRYING TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE WORSENING ECONOMY. THE DISMISSALS ALSO REMOVE TWO FIGURES WHO WERE NOT AS RESTRAINED AS THE NEW OFFICIALS IN CRITICIZING CEAUSESCU AND HIS POLICIES.

4. (C/NOFORN) ROMANIA'S PRECARIOUS ECONOMIC STANDING PROBABLY WILL NOT IMPROVE MUCH IN THE NEAR FUTURE, DESPITE THE LEADERSHIP CHANGES. BUCHAREST, HOWEVER, WILL QUITE LIKELY BECOME MORE ACCOMMODATING IN RELATIONS WITH ITS CEMA PARTNERS WHILE KEEPING OPEN ITS ECONOMIC LINKS TO THE WEST. LIKEWISE, THE MAVERICK NATURE OF CEAUSESCU'S FOREIGN POLICY SHOULD NOT CHANGE.

PREPARED BY: 25x1
(REVW 24 MAY 88)

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168961	CABLE	1	5/19/1982	B1
	192138Z MAY 82			

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168962 CABLE

2 5/20/1982 B1

201650Z MAY 82

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168963 CABLE

1 5/25/1982 B1

251808Z MAY 82

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168964 CABLE

1 5/25/1982 B1

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FOR STATE REP; NAVY WAR COLLEGE FOR STATE DEPT
REP; TREASURY DEPT ATTN HRS BECK DADS; COMUSARMY FT MEADE FOR

SPECIAL RESEARCH DET; COMDT COASTGUARD FOR POLAD; HQ TAC FOR
TACOPS/INOI; HQS DSA FOR CIS; BERGSTROM AFB TEX FOR 67TH TRW
DO; NPIC FOR PB CABLES; CINCUSAFE FOR INOCN XPNN; HQ MAC SCOTT
AFB IL FOR INZ; CDR ITAC FOR GIPD, 24 COMP WING HOWARD AFB IN
IN; 8AF BARKSDALE AFB LA/INZE; 15AF MARCH AFB CA/INZE; 928MW
FAIRCHILD AFB WA/IN, 12 TIS BERGSTROM AFB FOR INI.
LATIN AMERICA BRIEF OCPAS LA 82-100 (24 MAY 1982).
FROM: DDI/O/CPAS.

THERE WAS NO LAB 99 FOR 20 MAY 1982.

1. CUBA: SHIFT IN AGRICULTURAL POLICY.

2. EL SALVADOR: CHARGES IN REFORMS.

3. OPEC: QUOTAS UNCHANGED.

1. CUBA: SHIFT IN AGRICULTURAL POLICY.

PUBLIC DISSATISFACTION AND ECONOMIC WOES APPARENTLY
HAVE LED PRESIDENT CASTRO TO EASE SOMEWHAT HIS EFFORTS TO
CURB PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN AGRICULTURE. (C)

IN A SPEECH LAST WEEK BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF PRIVATE FARMERS, CASTRO BACKED AWAY FROM EARLIER THREATS
TO CLOSE CUBA'S FREE MARKETS. HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT
PRICES COULD NOT FALL AS LOW AS THE CONSUMER WOULD LIKE
WITHOUT CAUSING A DECREASE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION THAT
WOULD DIVERT FARM PRODUCTS TO THE BLACK MARKET AND THUS
RESULT IN EVEN HIGHER PRICES. (C)

COMMENT: CASTRO NOW EVIDENTLY SEES THE MARKETS--WHICH
HAVE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN STIMULATING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION--
AS A NECESSARY EVIL. HIS TURNABOUT REFLECTS UNUSUAL SENSITIVITY
TO PUBLIC OPINION AND PROBABLY STEMS PARTLY FROM HIS CONCERN
THAT A "POLISH" PROBLEM NOT DEVELOP IN CUBA. THE PRESIDENT
IS LIKELY TO FACE PRESSURE BOTH FROM GOVERNMENT HARDLINERS--
WHO WANT TO BRING THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR COMPLETELY UNDER
STATE CONTROL--AND THE TECHNOCRATS, WHO ADVOCATE EVEN MORE

PRAGMATIC ECONOMIC POLICIES. (C)

RESTRICTIONS WHICH MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE IMPOSED, INCLUDING
PRICE CONTROLS, TAXES AND CLOSER GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION,
PROBABLY WOULD RESULT IN LOWER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.
OTHER STEPS THAT THE REGIME IS STILL PLANNING TO TAKE TO
REGULATE PRIVATE FARMERS ARE LIKELY TO HAVE THE SAME EFFECT.
(C)

2. //EL SALVADOR: CHANGES IN REFORMS.//

//THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK PASSED A BILL INITIATED
BY PRESIDENT MAGANA THAT LIMITS CONTINUED DISTRIBUTION OF
RENTED LANDS. ASSEMBLY LEADERS HAVE ASSURED THE PEASANTS,
HOWEVER, THAT ALL PAST AND PENDING CLAIMS TO LAND WILL BE
HONORED AND THAT REVISIONS IN REFORM LAWS WILL NOT REVERSE
THE PROCESS BEGUN BY THE COUP OF OCTOBER 1979. THE PRIVATE
SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT CONSERVATIVES BELIEVE THAT REVISIONS
OF EXISTING LAND REFORMS--AS WELL AS CHANGES IN BANKING AND
EXPORT LAWS--ARE NECESSARY TO REJUVENATE THE ECONOMY.// (S)

//COMMENT: SUCH REVISIONS ARE LIKELY TO TAKE SOME TIME.
SWEEPING CHANGES--ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY NOT CONTEMPLATED AT
THIS STAGE--PROBABLY WOULD FURTHER UNSETTLE EL SALVADOR'S
FOREIGN BENEFACTORS AND MIGHT DELAY VITALLY NEEDED ECONOMIC
AND MILITARY AID. THE LAND REFORM CHANGES ANNOUNCED THUS
FAR WILL GIVE LEFTWING EXTREMISTS A PROPAGANDA TOOL THAT
THEY ARE CERTAIN TO EXPLOIT AT HOME AND ABROAD.// (C)

3. OPEC: QUOTAS UNCHANGED.

OPEC OIL MINISTERS ANNOUNCED ON 21 MAY, AT THE CONCLUSION
OF THEIR MEETING IN ECUADOR, THAT THE PRODUCTION CEILING FOR
CRUDE OIL OF 17.5 MILLION BARRELS PER DAY ESTABLISHED IN
MARCH WOULD NOT BE CHANGED. THE MINISTERS ARE DIVIDED,
HOWEVER, ON HOW MUCH LONGER PRODUCTION QUOTAS SHOULD BE
MAINTAINED. SAUDI ARABIA AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
OPPOSE THE CONTINUATION OF PRODUCTION RESTRICTIONS AFTER

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

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PAGE 02 OF 02 CIA 8216

DTG: 242341Z MAY 82 PSN: 042372

DEMAND FOR OPEC OIL RECOVERS LATER IN THE YEAR. THE CONFERENCE
REAFFIRMED THE FREEZE ON THE PRICE OF THE OPEC BENCHMARK
CRUDE AT \$34 PER BARREL. (C)

//COMMENT: IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PREMATURE TO INCREASE
QUOTAS AT THIS TIME. ATTEMPTS TO SELL LARGE ADDITIONAL
QUANTITIES OF CRUDE OVER THE NEXT MONTH OR SO WOULD TEND TO
DRIVE PRICES DOWN AGAIN BECAUSE COMPANIES ARE STILL UNLOADING
EXCESS STOCKS. ONCE THE STOCK ADJUSTMENT IS COMPLETE,
PROBABLY DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, DEMAND FOR
OPEC OIL SHOULD INCREASE BY AS MUCH AS 3 MILLION TO 4 MILLION
BARRELS PER DAY. AT THAT TIME, OPEC MEMBERS ALMOST CERTAINLY
WILL IGNORE ANY QUOTAS AND PRODUCE MORE OIL.// (C)

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SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION
UPDATES (5/28/82)

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EXDIS
E.O. 12065: RDS-1 5/25/02 (WOODS R E) OR-M
TAGS: ENRG, NATO, NO
SUBJ: NATO SUMMIT: NORWEGIAN STATEMENT ON ENERGY

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT

2. PRIME MINISTER WILLOCH PLANS TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON
EVERGY AT NATO SUMMIT. STATEMENT IS NOW BEING DRAFTED
BY MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND ENERGY (MPE). MPE STATE
SECRETARY HANS HENRICH RAMM TOLD US ON MAY 26 THAT
ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF WILLOCH STATEMENT ON ENERGY ARE
EXPECTED TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

3. WILLOCH STATEMENT (DRAFT): "NORWAY IS AWARE OF NEED
FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO MAKE ENERGY CHOICES IN
NEXT FEW YEARS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER
SUPPLIERS FOR THE ENERGY MARKET OF THE 1990'S.
NORWAY HAS MAJOR GAS RESERVES WHICH IT IS WILLING TO
DEVELOP TO MEET EUROPEAN NEEDS. WHETHER NORWAY WILL
DEVELOP THESE RESERVES DEPENDS ON COMMERCIAL NEGOTI-
ATIONS BETWEEN PRIVATE SELLERS AND PURCHASERS. THE
GON IS NOT COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING AN OIL/GAS PARITY
PRICE. AT SAME TIME IF COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS DO
NOT ACHIEVE A REALISTIC PRICE FOR GAS THEN IT WILL BE
IN NORWAY'S INTEREST TO DEVELOP CRUDE OIL RATHER THAN
GAS." END STATEMENT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUERY, RAMM SAID SERIOUS EUROPEAN/
NORWEGIAN PRICE NEGOTIATIONS ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY CONCERNING SLEIPNER
AREA GAS. HE THOUGHT SERIOUS PRICE NEGOTIATIONS ON 31
AREA GAS COULD BEGIN AS EARLY AS 1983.

5. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO GET FINAL VERSION OF STATEMENT
PRIOR TO NATO SUMMIT. AUSTAD
BT

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Jacque Hill	<u>3</u>	<u>g</u>	<u> </u>
Judge Clark	<u>4</u>	<u>g</u>	<u>I</u>
John Poindexter	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Staff Secretary	<u>5</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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