

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

31a

[REDACTED]

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
19 November 1968

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Rumors of Soviet Military Move Into Rumania

Summary

Reports have been received from several quarters in Europe alleging that Soviet and other Warsaw Pact troops--as many as 150,000--are to move into Rumania on 22 November. [REDACTED]

Current Soviet military dispositions and political behavior give no indications of any immediate moves against Rumania. [REDACTED]

Other unconfirmed reports suggest that a Warsaw Pact exercise is to take place in Rumania this month. We have observed some small-scale activity in Rumania which could relate to a minor joint exercise or other kind of military cooperation. The scale and type of this activity is not indicative of a large military exercise. Nor has Bucharest given the signs we should expect to see if such an exercise were imminent.

SANITIZED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
NLJ/RAC 01-154
By cbm, NARA, Date 1-11-02

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

Reports of Military Move Into Rumania

[REDACTED]

4. If a major Warsaw Pact exercise is to be held in Rumania now, it would be the first time any Pact exercise of such scope has occurred this late in the year. We know that the official Pact training schedule for 1968 contained no provision for a maneuver in Rumania. Moreover, we have good information that a Soviet-Rumanian agreement was reached last month for a Pact exercise to be held there in 1969.

-2-
~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

5. We have received only tenuous indications that could be interpreted as preparations for a Pact exercise in Rumania. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the installation of temporary military communications facilities in the Bucharest area. Polish and Hungarian officers, and an East German military transport were also observed in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are believed to have been delivery flights. A few Soviet air force officers subsequently were seen in two Rumanian cities.

Comment

6. Although most of the Soviet forces committed to the Czechoslovak intervention have returned to home stations, the military preparations necessary for intervention comparable to those undertaken prior to the invasion of Czechoslovakia have not been detected. We believe a Soviet-led invasion of Rumania is unlikely at this time. Although some Soviet forces on the Rumanian border were mobilized during the Czech crisis, [REDACTED] evidence of mid-September indicated no buildup sufficient for intervention had occurred at that time, and, since then, there have been no indications from other sources of such preparations.

7. In their public attitude and in their behavior toward the Warsaw Pact since the invasion of Czechoslovakia, the Rumanians have sought not to offer the Soviets gratuitous offense. Moscow has noted these signs, too, and seems, for now, to have eased its propaganda and psychological pressures on Bucharest.

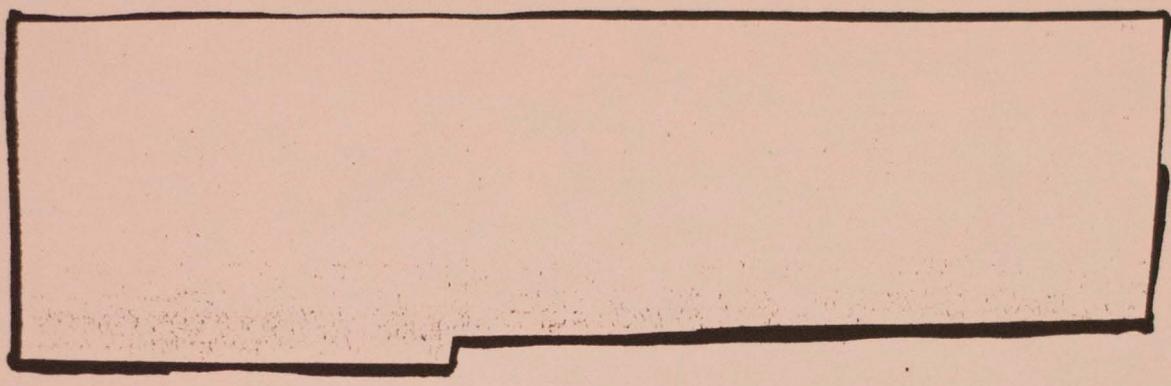
8. The Soviets can probably afford to play a waiting game with the Rumanians long enough to see what lessons the latter have learned from the intervention in Czechoslovakia. One important touchstone will be whether the Rumanians will be more visibly cooperative where the affairs of the Warsaw Pact are concerned. This would include participation in forthcoming combined exercises.

-3-
~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

9. Neither have the Rumanians given the signs we might expect to see if exercises were imminent. If an exercise were to be held in Rumania beginning on 22 November, party and state chief Ceausescu doubtlessly would have a campaign under way to prepare the people for this event. (The last joint Pact exercise held in Rumania was in October 1962, three years before Ceausescu came to power.) No such campaign is in evidence.



-4-
~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]
NO FOREIGN DISSEM