CIA Analysis of the Warsaw Pact Forces:

The Importance of Clandestine Reporting

OCTOBER 25, 2012 // 3:30 P.M. // NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE
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Précis

The Soviet Union established itself as a threat to the West by its military occupation of Poland and other eastern European countries at the end of World War II and through the unsuccessful attempts by its armed proxies to capture Greece and South Korea. Its unceasing attempts to subvert governments throughout Western Europe and America, and later through the “wars of national liberation” cast a shadow over everyday life in the West. The massive Soviet nuclear weapon equipped armed forces stationed in central Europe stood behind its political offensives such as the Berlin Crises. The West countered with the formation of NATO and the acceptance and rebuilding of West Germany. During the same period that the West welcomed West Germany into NATO the Soviets established through the Warsaw Treaty of May 1955 a formal military bloc of Communist nations.

This study continues CIA’s effort to provide the public with a more detailed record of the intelligence derived from clandestine human sources that was provided to US policymakers and used to assess the political and military balances and confrontations in Central Europe between the Warsaw Pact and NATO during the Cold War. Finished intelligence, based on human and technical sources, was the basis for personal briefings of the President, Vice President, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of State, and other cabinet members, and for broader distribution through NIEs. It is the opinion of the authors that the information considerably aided US efforts to preserve the peace at a bearable cost.

This study showcases the importance of clandestine source reporting to CIA’s analysis of the Warsaw Pact forces. This effort complements the CIA’s release of the “Caesar” series of studies and other significant CIA documents in 2007; and

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1 Finished Intelligence is the CIA term for the product resulting from the collection, processing, integration, analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of available all source information.
2 The Caesar Studies are analytic monographs and reference aids produced by the DI through the 1950s to the mid-1970s. They provided in-depth research on Soviet internal politics primarily intended to give insight on select political and economic issues and CIA analytic thinking of the period.
releases by other IC agencies. It also complements ongoing projects, including those of the Wilson Center of the Smithsonian Institution and NATO that reexamine the Cold War in light of newly available documentation released by several former members of the Warsaw Pact.

The clandestine reports by the predecessor organizations of CIA’s current National Clandestine Service (NCS) are representative of those that at the time made especially valuable contributions to understanding the history, plans, and intentions of the Warsaw Pact. Many of these documents are being released for the first time. The clandestine source documents do not represent a complete record of contemporary intelligence collection. There was much information made available from émigrés and defectors as well as from imagery and SIGINT that was essential in the estimative process but is not the focus of this study.

The study includes NIEs that CIA has previously released. It also includes finished intelligence documents produced by the CIA’s Directorate of Intelligence (DI), some previously released, and the clandestinely obtained information upon which those reports were largely based. The DI reports were selected in part because they were the detailed basis of CIA contributions to NIEs that focused on the military aspects of the Warsaw Pact. The DI finished intelligence reports also provided the background for future current intelligence. Appended to the study is a collection of declassified intelligence documents relating to the Warsaw Pact's military forces, operational planning, and capabilities. Although many of the documents were released in past years, new reviews have provided for the restoration of text previously redacted.

All of the documents selected for this study are available on the attached DVD, on CIA’s website at http://www.foia.cia.gov/special_collections.asp or at HistoricalCollections@UCIA.gov or the CIA Records Search Tool (CREST) located at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), College Park, MD.
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AGENDA

3:30pm – 3:35pm WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

3:35pm – 4:40pm INTELLIGENCE PANELS

- Introduction to the Warsaw Pact Study
  - John Bird
  - Co-author with Joan Bird

- Intelligence and Planning, Programming and Budgeting in the Department of Defense
  - Alain C. Enthoven
  - Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Analysis

- Intelligence and Development of Military Doctrine, Strategy and Planning
  - Paul F. Gorman, General USA (Ret.)
  - Former CINC Southern Command
  - Former National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces

- Intelligence and Development of USAF Doctrine, Strategy and Planning
  - Barry Watts
  - Formerly of USAF’s CHECKMATE and Director of Program Analysis in the Office of the Secretary of Defense

4:40pm – 4:45pm Break

4:50pm – 5:30pm Discussion Q & A

- John Landry, Moderator, MGen USA (Ret.)
- National Intelligence Officer for Military Issues
SPEAKERS AND EDITORS

John J. Bird

John Bird, one of the authors of this study, had a 32 year career as an analyst of Soviet military issues at CIA. He has a Master of Arts in economics from the University of Washington and is a graduate of the National War College. In addition to his many assignments within the CIA, he served as Deputy National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose forces, Director of the Strategic Warning Staff and National Intelligence Officer for Warning. He was chief of the Intelligence Community's monitoring authority for all US arms control treaties and agreements. He also served as the Intelligence Community’s Senior Intelligence Representative to the Conference on Disarmament during the negotiations that resulted in the Chemical Weapons Treaty. Since his retirement from CIA in 1994 he has worked with the Naval War College designing and assessing war games, and for the Army Training and Doctrine Command designing and assessing their Army After Next series of war games. In addition he has undertaken projects for the Intelligence Community during the last several years.

Alain C Enthoven


Professor Enthoven holds a B.A. in economics from Stanford University (1952), a M. Phil. in economics from Oxford University (1954) and a Ph.D. in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1956). He is currently the Marriner S. Eccles Professor of Public and Private Management (Emeritus) at Stanford University.
Paul F. Gorman, General USA (Ret.)

General Gorman has been the CINC of US Southern Command, Director of Plans and Policy for the Chairman JCS, National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces, Commander 8th Infantry Division, the first Deputy Chief of Staff for Training in the US Army’s Training and Doctrine Command. It is said that he is the Godfather of many of the training developments that marked the training revolution of the Army of the 1970s and 1980s, including the adoption of the After Action Review, and the creation of the revolutionary National Training Center. He was the author of numerous studies and articles aimed at improving Army training practices, as well as, studies and contributions leading to advancing new army doctrine. In addition, related to his service as the National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces, he authored or managed the creation of several important intelligence documents, for one of which he received the Sherman Kent Award for outstanding contributions to intelligence.

General Gorman led soldiers in combat in two wars, as a platoon leader in Korea and as a battalion and brigade commander in Vietnam. He served as a member of the United States delegation to the Vietnam Peace Talks in Paris. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross, The Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart, the Silver Star and the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal.

General Gorman is a graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point. He has master’s degree in Public Administration from Harvard University, and is a graduate of the National War College.

Major General John R. Landry, USA (Retired)
National Intelligence Officer for Military Issues

General John Landry was named National Intelligence Officer for Military Issues December 1993 after a distinguished 32-year career in the US Army.

General Landry served as a cavalry troop commander with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam, where he led his unit in a number of actions winning the Silver Star and Bronze Star. Following successful battalion and brigade-level commands, he was promoted to brigadier general in the late 1980s, and deployed to Operation DESERT STORM in 1990 with VII Corps, where he held the position of Corps Chief of Staff, assisting the corps commander in leading the largest allied armored formation in combat since World War II. After his service in Iraq, General Landry was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Reserve Affairs, a position he held until late 1993.

General Landry is a graduate of West Point and the National War College and earned an M.P.A. at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. He has taught at West Point in the Department of Social Sciences.
Barry D. Watts


Mr. Watts holds a B.S. in mathematics from the U.S. Air Force Academy (1965) and an M.A. in philosophy from the University of Pittsburgh (1974). From 2006 until 2011, he taught as an adjunct professor in Georgetown University’s security studies program. He is now a Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic & Budget Assessments (CSBA).

Joan B. Bird

Joan Bird, one of the co-editors of this study, had a 29 year career at CIA as a senior analyst of Soviet issues, including Soviet space activities, Soviet policies on potential space weapons, and arms control of space and defense issues. She is a graduate of West Virginia University and spent three years at the Center for Naval Warfare Studies of Naval War College developing ways to incorporate intelligence, space, communications and information operations in their studies and wargames. In addition to 25 years as an analyst, she spent 3 years as the senior intelligence representative on the Defense and Space negotiating team and a year supporting the US delegation to the UN Conference on Disarmament on arms control for space. Since retirement in 1997 she has worked for the Naval War College working with the players and assessors of Information Operations in the Naval War College War Games, and for the Army Training and Doctrine Command assessing the information operations play of their Army after Next Series of war games. She is a co-author of several historical studies for the Historical Collections Division of CIA.