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ELECTRICAL RELEASE
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SPANISH-SPEAKING PILOTS TRAINING AT TRENCIN AIRFIELD, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ON 31 MAY 1961

Training of at least four Spanish-speaking pilots at Trencin airfield (48-52N 18-51E) was noted in Czechoslovak air-ground communications (VHF voice) on 31 May 1961. The nationality of the pilots has not been determined; study continues, however.

Between 1631Z and 1736Z these pilots were in continual contact with the Trencin airfield tower control (callword TENOR-1) on a frequency allocated to the 46th Bomber Division/S341, Prerov (49-26N 17-25E); the pilots used suffixes (714, 787, 794, and 790) from a block probably allocated to the unidentified ground attack unit at Trencin, which is believed to be subordinate to S341.

It is noteworthy that during this activity the Spanish-speaking trainees apparently engaged in air-to-air communication, as evidenced by the following transmission:

Time	To	From	Text
1727Z	TENOR-1	790	794 [is at] altitude 3000 meters [in the] zone; permission to carry out maneuver....

This is the first time that air-to-air communication between Spanish-speaking trainees has been noted.

Two pilots speaking Czech and using pilot suffixes (B val 798) and 91 (presumably 791) were also active during the same period. Although they made reference to zones "A" and "B," suggesting tactical activity, there was no indication that they were working together or with the Spanish-speaking pilots. However, a study of voice characteristics discloses that Spanish may not be the native tongue of one of the pilots who used that language, suggesting that he may have been a Czech using Spanish to facilitate training commands.

For information on previously observed activity by Spanish-speaking pilots at Trencin, recipients of [redacted] 1 Feb 61, should refer. (DIST: OSCAR/DELTA; PLUS GCU FONTAINEBLEAU.)

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