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PAGE 01

UNCLASSIFIED 00703 01 OF 04 101436Z

ACTION EUR-01

INFO LOG-00 AID-01 AKAD-01 SJK-01 C-01 CISA-02 DS-00
OIG-01 HA-09 H-01 IMRE-00 IMR-01 L-03 ADS-00
MISF-01 MIP-03 N-01 WRRC-01 WSAE-00 HSCE-00 ONB-01
FA-02 PK-01 PRS-01 P-01 RP-10 SCT-03 SDEL-01
SNP-01 SP-01 SS-01 TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00 /052

R 101416Z AUG 92
FK AMBASSADOR MINSK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0311
INFO AMBASSADOR MOSCOW
DIA WASHDC
AMBASSADOR KIEV
AMBASSADOR VILNIUS
CIA WASHDC
BE

UNCLASSIFIED SECTION 01 OF 04 MINSK 000703
serial: MINSK 00703-92
E.O.12356: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PIMR, PGOV, ASEC, BO
SUBJECT: BELARUSIAN KGB -- "A KINDER, GENTLER
SECURITY APPARATUS"

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN AN AUGUST 4 PRESS
CONFERENCE AT KGB HEADQUARTERS, BELARUS' KGB
CHIEF EDUARD SHERKOVSKIIY ANNOUNCED THE SIGNING
JULY 31 OF A MUTUAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE BELARUSIAN AND UKRAINIAN KGB'S IN

THE AREAS OF INTELLIGENCE, COUNTERINTELLIGENCE
ORGANIZED CRIME AND DRUGS. IN ADDITION TO OPERATIONAL
COOPERATION, THE TWO STATE SECURITY ORGANS
WILL ASSIST EACH OTHER "TECHNICALLY AND
THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION." SHERKOVSKIIY
UNDERSCORED THAT BELARUSIAN AGREEMENTS WITH RUSSIA, KAZAKHSTAN, AND NOW
UKRAINE DID NOT SIGNIFY A REUNIFICATION OF
SECURITY SERVICES -- SECRET INFORMATION OF ONE
STATE WOULD NOT BE SHARED WITH ANOTHER.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, SHERKOVSKIIY
ALLEGED THAT THE KGB WAS ORGANIZED TO FIGHT
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND SHOULD COOPERATE
WITH FOREIGN SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS. HE
CLAIMED THE KGB DID NOT TAP GOVERNMENT
TELEPHONES AND EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE KGB
SHOULD BE SUBORDINATED TO THE SUPREME SOVET,
RATHER THAN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.
SHERKOVSKIIY SAID THE BELARUS KGB HAD SIX
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The agreement

6. He began the conference with a prepared statement regarding the July 31, 1992, signing in Kiev of a mutual cooperation agreement between the Belarus KGB and the Ukrainian KGB which he emphasized was an agreement between mutually independent organizations, with no domination or hegemony on either side. The agreement, he said, 

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PAGE 01  MINSK 00703 02 OF 04 101436Z
ACTION EUR-01
INFO LOG-00  AID-01  AHAD-01  SJK-01  C-01  CISA-02  DS-00
OIGC-01  HA-09  H-01  INRE-00  INR-01  L-03  ADS-00
MOPK-01  MOP-03  M-01  WRR-01  NSAE-00  NSCE-00  OMK-01
PK-02  P-01  PRS-01  P-01  RP-10  SCT-03  SDEL-01
SNP-01  SP-01  SS-01  TRSE-00  T-01  USE-00  /052W

R 101416Z AUG 92
PH AMBASSAD MINSK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0312
INFO AMBASSAD MOSCOW
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 KINSK 000703

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Provides a legal basis under international and national law for operational cooperation between state security forces, not simply headquarters, in the areas of intelligence, counterintelligence, the fight against drugs, and organized crime. This is not a reunification of security services, Sherkovskiyy said; secret materials of one state are not to be shared with another. In addition to operational cooperation, the two state security organs will assist each other technically and through exchange of **UNCLASSIFIED**
10. Sherkovskiy reported that his organization has some information on corruption in the ruling circles in Belarus. He said one case had resulted in the arrest of a judge for trying to sell three kilos of gold abroad on false documentation.

11. Sherkovskiy restated the Belarusian national policy of being a non-nuclear, neutral state, but warned that the Belarusian KGB is organized not only to fight crime, but international terrorism and other threats to national security. He asked rhetorically why Belarus should not cooperate with foreign security organizations -- French, Italian and others.

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WHAT WAS IMPORTANT NOW WAS STABILITY.

15. IN RESPONSE TO A FINAL (SEEKINGLY PLANTED FOR OUR BENEFIT) QUESTION FROM REPORTERS, SHERKOVSKYI SAID THE BELARUSIAN KGB HAS SIX VOLUMES OF FILES ON LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

SHERKOVSKYI SAID THAT HE HAS TALKED WITH NUMEROUS REPORTERS AND AUTHORS FROM THE US AND THE FORER-USA AND OFFERED TO SHOW THEM THE RECORDS WHICH HE SAID PROVE THAT OSWALD WAS NOT A KGB AGENT. HE SAID THAT HIS ORGANIZATION WENT TO EXTREME LENGTHS TO DETERMINE IF OSWALD WAS A CIA AGENT, AND IS CONVINCED THAT HE WAS NOT. OSWALD, HE SAID, WAS MENTALLY UNBALANCED; AND HE, FOR ONE, WAS GLAD WHEN THE MAN LEFT BELARUS. AS A POLICEMAN, SHERKOVSKYI SAID, HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE SKILL AT MARKSMANSHIP ALLEGED OF OSWALD. SHERKOVSKYI SAID THE KGB HAD FOLLOWED OSWALD EVERYWHERE HE WENT, GIVEN THE INTELLIGENCE INTEREST HE GENERATED. WHEN OSWALD WAS GIVEN ACCESS TO A GUN AND PERMITTED TO GO HUNTING "HE COULDN'T HIT A CROWD."

16. THE BELARUS KGB CHIEF CLOSED WITH A WARNING AGAINST PRESS SENSATIONALISM. "THERE'S A GOOD DEAL MORE INTEREST IN THE KGB NOWADAYS," HE SAID. "WE'RE CHANGING. ONLY

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