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Withdrawer Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: COUNTRY FILE 9/3/2015 KDB SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION File Folder **FOIA** UPDATES (7/9/82) (2) F03-002/5 **SKINNER Box Number** 19

						128	
ID Doc Type		Document Descript	ion	No of Page		Doc Date	Restrictions
169157 CABLE		021907Z JUL 82			1	7/2/1982	B1
169158 REPORT		RE HUNGARY (PA	GE 8 ONLY)		1	7/3/1982	B1
	PAR	10/11/2010	CREST 748-19-50)-1-1			
169159 CABLE					2	6/28/1982	B1
169160 CABLE		021354Z JUL 82		1	4	7/2/1982	B1
	R	6/5/2013	CREST NLR-748-1	19-50-2	2-0	9	
169161 CABLE		011035Z JUL 82			2	7/1/1982	B1
	R	6/3/2013	CREST NLR-748-1	1 9-50- 3	3-9	9	
169162 CABLE		072053Z JUL 82			1	7/7/1982	B1
169163 CABLE					1	7/6/1982	B1

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SOVIET BLOC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SITUATION

UPDATES (7/9/82) (2)

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ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages		Restrictions	
169165 CABLE		3	7/6/1982	B1	
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169167 CABLE		2	7/2/1982	B1	
169168 CABLE		2	7/1/1982	B1	
69169 CABLE		2	7/6/1982	B1	
169170 CABLE	MADRID 7078	1	7/6/1982	B1	
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169157 CABLE

1 7/2/1982

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021907Z JUL 82

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IDDocument TypeNo of Doc DateRestrictionsDocument Descriptionpagestions

169158 REPORT 1 7/3/1982 B1

RE HUNGARY (PAGE 8 ONLY)

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Top Secret

N4

169158

HUNGARY: Financial Pressure Eases

West German and French support could help Hungary out of its immediate hard currency bind, but Budapest's financial position will remain precarious at least for the remainder of the year. (C)

A West German cabinet-level decision has been made to support additional credits for Hungary to avert a rescheduling in 1982. The cabinet fears a rescheduling would threaten Budapest's program of economic and political liberalization.

French bankers anticipate that, as a result of President Mitterrand's visit to Budapest next week, Paris will instruct them to provide new credits to Hungary. French banks have been reluctant to give new loans to Hungary unless backed by a government guarantee.

Budapest needs at least \$300 million to remain afloat this quarter. Budapest is counting on arranging a \$250 million credit from Western banks that are concerned about Hungary's financial position. (C NF OC)

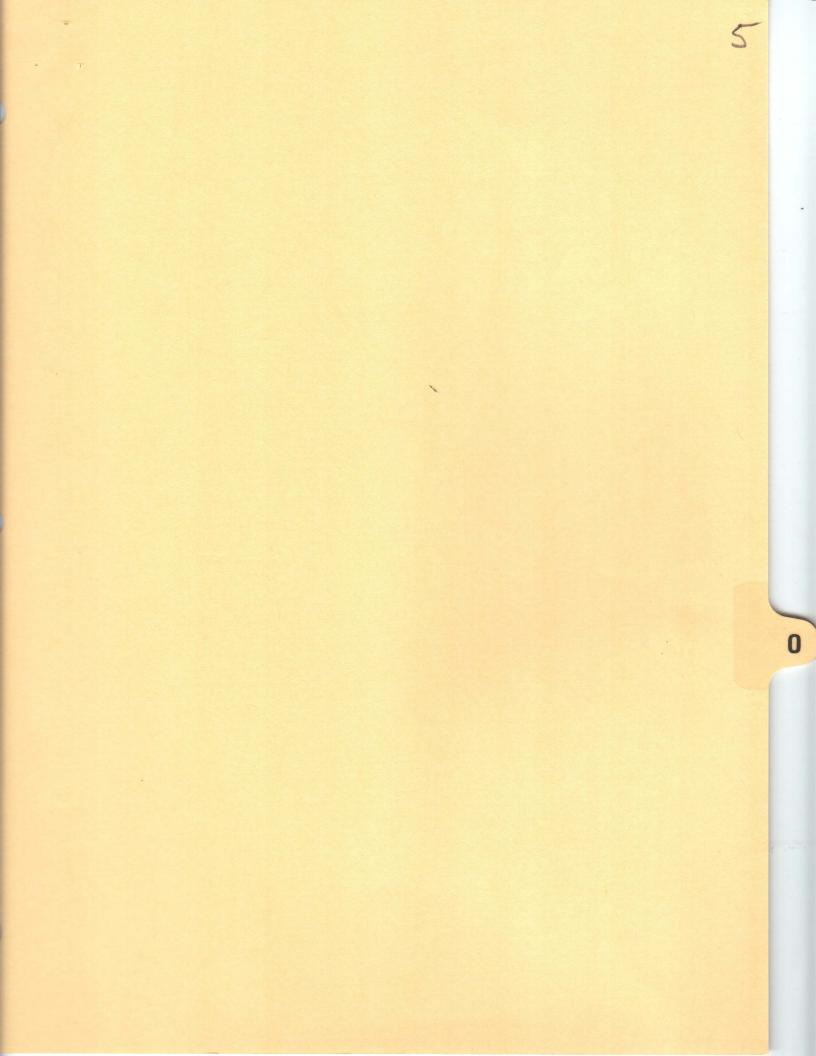
also is worried about further deposit withdrawals. According to US Embassy officials, Budapest may therefore have to seek IMF credits this quarter.

Comment: West German and French Government support would help Budapest in its efforts to raise \$250 million from Western commercial banks and \$300 million from the Bank for International Settlements. Access to more BIS funds depends, however, upon agreement with the IMF on credits tied to a stabilization program that probably will require Budapest to take tougher measures to curb imports. (£) -CIA, DIA, NSA-

Top Secret
3 July 1982

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169159 CABLE 2 6/28/1982 B1

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PAGE Ø1 OF Ø2 BUDAPEST 38Ø3 ANØØ9339

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION Ø1 OF Ø2 BUDAPEST 3803

PARIS ALSO FOR OECD; LONDON ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY-DESIGNATE BURT; PARIS ALSO FOR AMB. MEISSNER
E.O. 12065: RDS-1 7/2/02 (BERGOLD, HARRY E.) OR-M
TAGS: EFIN, IMF, HU
SUBJECT: HUNGARY'S STRATEGY FOR AVOIDING RESCHEDULING--A CONVERSATION WITH A NATIONAL BANK OFFICIAL REF: A. BUDAPEST 3762; B. BUDAPEST 3561; C. BUDAPEST 3750 BUDAPEST 2942; E. BUDAPEST 2135

- (CENTIRE TEXT.)
- SUMMARY: TO REVIEW FINANCIAL DECELOPMENTS IN HUNGARY, OFFICER AND VISITING U.S. OFFICIAL MET JULY 2 WITH EDE BAKO (STRICTLY PROTECT), THE NATIONAL BANK'S GENERAL MANAGER FOR ECONOMICS AND IMF RELATIONS. BAKO GAVE SOME INDICATION OF HUNGARY'S EXPECTATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF IMF CREDIT FACILITIES AND AGREE-MENT ON A PROGRAM OF ADJUSTMENT. BAKO'S MOST OPTIMISTIC TIME-TABLE WOULD HAVE CONSULTATIONS IN LATE OCTOBER AND POSSIBLE AGREE-MENT ON A PROGRAM OF ADJUSTMENT BY DECEMBER 1982. HOWEVER, THE NATIONAL BANK'S USE OF THE FUND'S COMPENSATORY FINANCING FACILITY SEEMS POSSIBLE FOR 1982, HE SAID. BAKO SAID THAT THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IS AGAIN CONSIDERING THE FEASIBILITY OF CUTS IN DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION (AND DEFENSE EXPENDITURES) TO MAKE FOODSTUFFS AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT. THESE MEASURES MAY STILL BE INADEQUATE TO AVERT RESCHEDULING IN 1982, IF THERE IS A RESUMPTION IN SHORTTERM DEPOSIT WITHDRAWALS. END SUMMARY.
- BAKO INDICATED IMF PROGRAM OF ASJUSTMENT AND CREDITS: THAT SOME PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS REGARDING AN IMF PROGRAM OF ADJUSTMENT TOOK PLACE EARLIER IN JUNE, DURING THE VISIT OF IMPAND IBRD TEAMS. BUT, BEFORE ANY AGREEMENT ON SUCH A PROGRAM CAN TAKE PLACE, THERE WOULD NEED TO BE ANOTHER ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS. THE EARLIEST HE FORESAW THESE WOULD BE IN LATE OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER. HIS MOST OPTIMISTIC TIMETABLE HAD AGREEMENT ON A PRO-

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GRAM, AND PERHAPS A DRAWING ON IMF FACILITIES, BY DECEMBER 1982. BAKO HOPED HUNGARY COULD DRAW ON ITS FULL QUOTA OF ABOUT 400 MILLION DOLLARS.

4. SECOND HALF 1982 CREDIT NEEDS: BAKO CLAIMED HUNGARY RAISED NEARLY 500 MILLION IN MEDIUM-TERM CREDITS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1982, INCLUDING CREDITS FROM SUPPLIERS. (THIS EXCLUDES AND BIS LENDING.) IN THE SECOND HALF, HUNGARY WOULD NEED ANOTHER 500 MILLION DOLLARS, ASSUMING CURRENT ACCOUNT EQUILIBRIUM FOR THE WHOLE OF 1982. HE FORECAST THE NATIONAL BANK SOURCES AS FOLLOWS:

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

BIS STANDBY (TO BE DRAWN UPON ONLY IN AN EMERGENCY) 300
IMF COMPENSATORY FINANCING FACILITY 150
MANUFACTURERS HANOVER CLUB LOAN 250
OTHER CREDITS (E. G. OFFICIAL) 100
TOTAL 800

BAKO SAID THE BIS STANDBY WOULD IMPROVE COMMERCIAL BANK CONFIDENCE IN HUNGARY.

- 5. TRADE PERFORMANCE IN 1982: DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS
 OF 1982, HUNGARY ACHIEVED A HARD CURRENCY TRADE SURPLUS OF
 200 MILLION DOLLARS (CONTRACT BASIS, I.E., EXCLUDING FREIGHT AND
 INSURANCE CHARGES). A 500 MILLION TRADE SURPLUS WOULD BE NEEDED
 IN THE LAST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1982 TO ACHIEVE CURRENT ACCOUNT EQUILIBRIUM. HE THOUGHT THIS GOAL COULD BE ACHIEVED IF HUNGARY'S
 POLITICAL LEADERS WOULD AGREE TO NEW MEASURES NOW UNDER CONSIEERATION TO EXPAND EXPORTS.
- 6. NEW MEASURES: BAKO SAID THAT HUNGARY WAS ATAIN CONSIDERING TOUGH MEASRURS FOR IMPROVING ITS TRADE SURPLUS BY A MARGIN LARGE ENOUGH TO ACHIEVE A CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS IN 1983. NEW MEASURES BEING CONSIDERED ARE:

 -- REDUCTION IN DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION VIA PRIVE INCREASES. BAKO

-- REDUCTION IN DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION VIA PRIVE INCREASES. BAKO SAID SUCH REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION WOULD FREE UP BASIC FOOOD

PRODUCTS AND OTHER GOODS WHICH COULD BE EXPORTED FOR HARD CURRENCY. HUNGARY WOULD ALSO CONSIDER REDUCTIONS OF SOME CONSUMER IMPORTS, INCLUDING COFFEE. MEAT PRICES WOULD BEINCREASED. HE WOULD HOPE TO SEE PRICES RISE BY 7.5 PERCENT AND WAGES BY ONLY 4.5 PERCENT, WITH PURCHASING POWER THUS FALLING BY 3 PERCENT. -- DEVALUATION OF THE FORINT BY 5 TO 10 PERCENT. -- REDUCED BUDGET OUTLAYS, INCLUSING DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. THE DECISION ON THESE STEPS COULD BE MADE IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. BAKO BELIEVES THE REGIME WILL IMPLEMENT AN AUSTERITY PROGRAM, WITH ONLY THE MAGNITUDE YET TO BE DETERMINED. BT

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PAGE Ø1 OF Ø2 BUDAPEST 38Ø3 EOB7Ø1 ANØØ934Ø

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BUDAPEST 3803

EXDIS

PARIS ALSO FOR OECD: LONDON ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY-DESIGNATE BURT; PARIS ALSO FOR AMB. MEISSNER

- 7. PROSPECTS FOR 1983: BAKO HOPED THAT THE NEW MEASURES WOULD RESULT IN A TRADE SURPLUS OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS NEXT YEAR, LEADING TO A CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS OF 400 OR 500 MILLION DOLLARS.
- POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS: WE ASKED BAKO WHY THESE MEASURES, UNDER CONSIDERATION ALSO IN THE SPRING, WERE NOT ADOPTED AT THAT HE SAID THE IMF TEAM HERE IN JUNE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE WAS A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL IN THIS REGARD. BAKO FELT THAT A 3 OR 4 PERCENT REDUCTION IN REAL WAGES WAS POLITICALLY TOLERABLE AND THAT DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MARJAI AGREED WITH THIS VIEW. OPPOSING SUCH REDUCTIONS IN PURCHASING POWER WAS THE NATIONAL PLANNING OFFICE'S FALUVEGYI AND FINANCE MINISTER HETENYI. BAKO HOPED A POLITICAL DECISION WOULD BE REACHED BEFORE AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER. CONTINUING, BAKO SAID HUNGARY'S POLITICIANS HAD A CLEAR CHOICE: -- CONTINUE WITH SLOGANS OF PAST TWO YEARS REGARDING THE INVIOLABILITY OF MAINTAINING LIVING STANDARDS AND RUN THE RISK OF RESCHEDULING; OR -- REDUCE PURCHASING POWER AT HOME IN ORDER TO MAKE AVAILABLE GOODS AND RESOURCES FOR EXPORT.
- BAKO SAID THAT RESCHEDULING COULD LEND SUPPORT TO CONSER-VATIVE ELEMENTS, NOW IN THE MINORITY, WHO ARGUE FOR GREATER ECONOMIC TIES WITH CEMA. BAKO SAID THAT THE USSR WOULD POINT TO A HUNGARIAN RESCHEDULING AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE FAILURE OF TRADE WITH THE WEST. HE REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON WHICH HUNGARIANS MIGHT BE BLAMED IN THE EVENT OF A RESCHEDULING.
- TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PROBLEMS OF DRAWING SOON ENOUGH ON IMF CREDIT FACILITIES, BAKO'S FIGURES FOR THE SECOND HALF OF 1982 HAVE BEEN MODIFIED FROM WHAT HE

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DTG: Ø21354Z JUL 82 PSN: Ø45496

PROVIDED EARLIER (SEE BUDAPEST 3763). GIVEN GHE TIMETABLE BAKO GIVES US FOR IMF CONSULTATIONS, IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT HUNGARY WILL BE ABLE TO DRAW UPON ITS QUOTA FACILITY DURING 1982, ALTHOUGH BAKO DOES HOPE TO TAP COMPENSATORY FINANCING CREDITS. WITH A RESCHEDULING APPEARING MORE LIKELY, WE BELIEVE MARJAI MIGHT HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF GETTING SOME SUPPORT FOR THESE MEASURES. BUT THERE IS A DANGER THAT THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP WILL WATER DOWN CONSIDERABLY THE NATIONAL BANK'S PROPOSALS FOR CUTTING DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION.

- 10. WE BELIEVE THAT THE MEASURES UNDER CONSIDERATION COULD BE EFFECTIVE IN ACHIEVING A CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE DURING THIS YEAR. BUT THERE IS ONE OBVIOUS PITFALL WHICH BAKO HIMSELF RECOGNIZES. MOSTLY LIKELY CUSTOMERS FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS ARE OTHER CEMA OR THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES NOW EXPERIENCING HARD CURRENCY SHORTAGES OF THEIR OWN. ANOTHER KEY PROBLEM IS DEBT STRUCTURE: I.E. THE NATIONAL BANK'S 1.7 BILLION DOLLARS IN SHORT-TERM CREDITS WHICH COULD STILL BE WITHDRAWN DURING THE COURSE OF 1982.
- 1. BAKO CLEARLY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE LEADERSHIP FACES
 THE DIFFICULT CHOICE OF CONTINUING PRESENT POLICIES WHICH
 ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL RESULT IN RESCHEDULING, OR OF IMPLEMENTING A TOUGH AUSTERITY PROGRAM TO REDUCE HUNGARY'S
 FINANCING REQUIREMENT AND RESTORE CREDITOR CONFIDENCE IN
 BUDAPEST'S ECONOMIC CONTROL. THE DECISION TO UNDERTAKE
 SUCH A PROGRAM, WHICH IMPLIES A 3 TO 4 PERCENT DECLINE
 IN LIVING STANDARDS NEXT YEAR, WILL BE A TOUGH TEST OF;
 THE REGIMES CONFIDENCE IN ITS ABILITY TO JUSTIFY AUSTERITY
 TO THE POPULACE AND TO ELICIT ITS COOPERATION. END
 COMMENT.
 BERGOLD

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CONFIDENTIAL BUDAPEST 3763

EXDIS

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DEPARTMENT PASS TREASURY AND FRB

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 7/1/02 (BERGOLD, HARRY E., JR.) OR-M TAGS: EFIN, IMF, EEWT, HU

SUBJECT: NATIONAL BANK OFFICIAL ON HUNGARY'S THIRD QUARTER PROSPECTS

REF: BUDAPEST 3566

W-ENTIRE TEXT.)

ECON OFFICER MET JUNE 25 WITH EDE BAKO (STRICTLY PROTECT), THE NATIONAL BANK'S GENERAL MANAGER FOR ECONOMICS AND RELATIONS WITH THE IMF/WORLD BANK. BAKO
WAS IN A SOMBER MOOOD. HE SAID HUNGARY FACED RESCHEDULING
DURING THE THIRD QUARTER IF THE MANUFACTURERS HANOVER (MH) CLUG LOAN WAS UNSUCCESSFUL. HE NOTED MH HAD RECEIVED A MANDATE TO ORGANIZE THE LOAN BUT NOW SEEMS TO BE BAKO SAID THAT MH HAD MADE THEIR EFFORT CON-STALLING. DITIONAL ON THE NATIONAL BANK PROVIDING FAR MORE DETAIL ABOUT HUNGARY'S EXTERNAL DEBT AND PAYMENTS POSITION THAN THE IMF RECEIVED. HE IMPLIED THAT THIS OPENNESS MAY HAVE BACKFIRED IN THAT IT REVEALED TO PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MH CLUB LOAN THE NATIONAL BANK'S VULNERABILITY TO FURTHER WESTERN BANK REDUCTIONS IN SHORT-TERM CREDITS, AS WELL AS HUNGARY'S DETERIORATING FINANCIAL POSITION.

- IN RESPONSE TO ECON OFFICER'S REQUEST, BAKO REVIEWED THE NATIONAL BANK'S THIRD QUARTER PROSPECTS. HE ESTIMATED HUNGARY NEEDED TO BORROW VERY SHORTLY AT LEAST 300 MILLION DOLLARS TO AVERT RESCHEDULING. APPROXIMATELY 200 MILLION WAS NEEDED FOR REPAYMENT OF MEDIUM-TERM OBLIGATIONS AND ABOUT ANOTHER 100 MILLION TO COVER THE ANTICIPATED CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT DURING THE THIRD QUARTER. BUT THAT LEFT NO MARGIN COVERING A FURTHER LOSS OF DEPOSITS AT THE NATIONAL
- 4. CONTINUING, BAKO REFERRED TO THE OBVIOUS DANGER POINT IN HUNGARY'S DEBT STRUCTURE: THE 1.7 BILLION DOLLARS OF SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES (AS OF THE END OF MARCH 1982). BAKO IMPLIED THAT THIS POSITION WOULD BE UNCHANGED AT THE END OF JUNE. BAKO SAID THAT BANKERS HAD GIVEN THE NATIONAL BANK ASSURANCES ON 1.5 BILLION DOLLARS OF HUNGARY'S SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES. THAT IS, HE EXPECTED 1.5 BILLION DOLLARS TO BE ROLLED OVER BY LENDING INSTITUTIONS AND CLAIMED THE NATIONAL BANK HAD "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENTS"

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DTG: Ø11Ø35Z JUL 82 PSN: Ø42568

TO THAT EFFECT. BUT BAKO FEARED THAT ABOUT 200 MILLION DOLLARS IN DEPOSITS AT THE NATIONAL BANK (MOSTLY FROM CEMA BANKS) COULD BE WITHDRAWN DURING THE THIRD QUARTER.

- 5. THUS, BAKO REASONED, EVEN WITH 300 MILLION IN NEW CREDITS FORTHCOMING IN THE THIRD QUARTER, HUNGARY FACED THE PROSPECT OF LOSING 200 MILLION IN DEPOSIT WITHDRAWALS. MOREOVER, HUNGARY'S RESERVES WOULD BE INADEQUATE TO HANDLE TO HANDLE SUCH A LOSS. ALTHOUGH RESERVES WERE NOW 300 TO 400 MILLION DOLLARS, ONLY 100 MILLION COULD BE READILY MOBILIZED DURING THE THIRD QUARTER.
- 6. DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER, BAKO FELT THAT THE NATIONAL BANK COULD DRAW UPON IMF FACILITIES. ALTHOUGH NOT SPECIFYING THE AMOUNTS, HE SEEMED CONFIDENT THAT HUNGARY WOULD MANAGE DURING THE REST OF 1982 ONCE IMF CREDITS BECAME AVAILABLE.
- 7. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO TABULATE WHAT BAKO WAS CONVEYING:

PROJECTED CASH FLOW TABLE THIRD QUARTER 1982 (MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

SOURCES USES CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE 100 MEDIUM TERM REPAYMENTS 200 ANTICIPATED DEPOSIT WITHDRAWALS 200 MH CLUB LOAN 250 BIS CREDIT 300 ADDITION TO RESERVES TOTAL 55Ø 55Ø

IN SHORT, FOR HUNGARY TO AVERT RESCHEDULING IN THE THIRD QUARTER, IT WILL NEED BOTH THE BIS AND THE MANUFACTURERS HANOVER CLUB LOAN. MOREOVER, THE NATIONAL BANK WILL NEED TO KEEP DEPOSIT WITHDRAWALS TO BELOW 300 MILLION DOLLARS (ASSUMING 100 MILLION IN RESERVES COULD BE MOBILIZED), AND THE HUNGARIAN ECONOMY WOULD NEED TO

SHOW AT LEAST A SMALL IMPROVEMENT IN ITS TRADE PERFORMANCE OVER THE FIRST QUARTER.

- 8. WE HAVE RECEIVED AN INDICATION THAT, GIVEN THE ABOVE SITUATION, HUNGARY MAY SEEK IMF ASSISTANCE IN THE THIRD QUARTER, NOT THE FOURTH QUARTER AS INDICATED EARLIER. UP TO NOW, WE HAVE ESTIMATED HUNGARY'S FOURTH QUARTER MEEDS TO AMOUNT TO 710 MILLION DOLLARS (510 MILLION FOR REPAYING THE BIS AND 200 MILLION DOLLARS FOR MEETING MEDIUM-TERM REPAYMENTS). THE NATIONAL BANK'S EXPECTATIONS ARE THAT THEIMF WILL LEND 500 MILLION DOLLARS DURING 1982.
- 9. BAKO EXPECTS TO BE IN WASHINGTON FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE IMF DURING THE WEEK OF JULY 5, PRESUMABLY TO DISCUSS THE CREDITS THE FUND IS PREPARED TO GRANT AND THE CONDITIONALITY ATTACHED TO ITS LENDING. BAKO WILL BE STAYING AT THE WATERGATE HOTEL. HE INDICATED HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET AGAIN WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICER TO DEBRIEF BAKO ON HUNGARY'S DISCUSSIONS WITH THE IMF. BERGOLD BT

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F03-002/5

UPDATES (7/9/82) (2)

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128

ID	Document Type	No of Doc Date	? Restric-
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169162 CABLE

1 7/7/1982

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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169165 CABLE

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169171 CABLE

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