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E/W - NO CHANGE IN SOVIET AIMS, WARNS U.S. REPORT

WASHINGTON, AUG 24, REUTER - UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM HAS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED ITS MILITARY STRENGTH IN THE REST OF THE WORLD DESPITE A GROWING RUSSIAN THREAT TO EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST, A HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STUDY SAID TODAY.

AN EVALUATION OF THE WORLD MILITARY SITUATION BY A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE WARNED "THERE IS NO VISIBLE CHANGE IN SOVIET AIMS AND THE THREAT TO WESTERN EUROPE IS NOW AS PRONOUNCED AS EVER."

MEANWHILE, THE REPORT SAID, MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT FOR AMERICAN ARMED FORCES IN EUROPE, THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ASIA HAVE BEEN CUT BACK BECAUSE OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT. IT CAUTIONED AGAINST THE U.S. TAKING ON ANY ADDITIONAL MILITARY COMMITMENTS WITHOUT MEASURING THEM AGAINST "AVAILABLE NATIONAL RESOURCES."

THE SUBCOMMITTEES "REVIEW OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT AND ITS IMPACT ON U.S. MILITARY COMMITMENTS ABROAD" WAS COMPLETED IN JULY, BEFORE RUSSIAN TROOPS INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA BUT WHILE THEY WERE IN THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY FOR WARSAW PACT MILITARY EXERCISES. THE REVIEW WAS RELEASED TODAY AFTER DEFENCE DEPARTMENT SECURITY CLEARANCE.

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