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ELECTRICAL RELEASE
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DIST: O/D

SPANISH-SPEAKING PILOT NOTED IN CZECHOSLOVAK AIR ACTIVITY
AT TRENČIN, 17 JANUARY

Czechoslovak air-ground communications observed on 17 January 1961 on a frequency of 114.25 mcs (combined bomber training/tactical frequency allocated to the 46th Bomber Division/S341, Prerov) show that a Spanish-speaking pilot was probably undergoing flight training of an unidentified type at Trenčín airfield (48-52N 16-51E).

At approximately 0840Z, an unidentified Spanish-speaking pilot was in contact with the Trenčín airfield tower control (callword TENOR-1). The transmission was subsequently blocked by a Czech transmission and only six numbers (217213), given in Spanish, were heard. Two other pilots, speaking Czech and utilizing pilot suffixes 181 and 175 (unidentified), were also noted in contact with the Trenčín controller, but there was no indication that these pilots were working together or with the Spanish-speaking pilot.

COMMENT: This is the first known VHF activity at Trenčín by a Spanish-speaking pilot. Use of the S341 frequency suggests that this pilot was possibly in a bomber or bomber trainer; however, activity at Trenčín noted in previous COMINT has not been identifiable as bomber activity.

Spanish-speaking pilots were noted previously communicating on HF with the Trenčín airfield controller on 11 October 1960, and were believed to be training in ground attack aircraft (see ~~██████████~~, 13 Oct 60). Subsequent Trenčín-controlled activity in October, also on HF, included references to the YAK-11, a piston engine trainer ((DIST: OSCAR/DELTA; PLUS GCU FONTAINEBLEAU.)

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