

February 16, 1980
**Ciphered Telegram No. 43, Embassy of Hungary in
India to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry**

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Summary:

A report from the Hungarian Embassy in India explaining that in the view of the Indian government, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan threatens regional stability as it could invite American and/or Chinese intervention.

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According to the evaluation of Deputy [Foreign] Minister Krishnan, Gromyko's visit, despite the fact that there were, and have remained, differences of opinion, might be regarded as useful and successful. Indian-Soviet relations are not based on a short-term, momentary assessment but on a solid foundation, and they guarantee the long-term cooperation of the two countries. During the current discussions, both sides expressed their views on the situation that had arisen in the region. The difference [between their views] lays in that India considers the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan [a phenomenon] that might serve as a pretext for American-Chinese intervention by means of Pakistan. This would create a permanent source of danger in the region. It is India's foremost interest to reduce tension in the region. This is why it is of the opinion that the troops should be withdrawn. He stressed that the local newspapers did not depict the negotiations in a sufficiently objective way. - 43 - V. -