

TOP SECRET

TS#142364-h

23 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT: MILITARY ANNEXES TO NIE 11-4-61: MAIN TRENDS
IN SOVIET CAPABILITIES AND POLICIES, 1961-1966**

1. At the request of the Joint Staff, the military annexes to NIE 11-4-61 have again been produced in advance of the main text of the estimate. A discussion of the Soviet ICBM, IRBM, and medium range ballistic missile programs is not included. The updating of these portions of the annexes is reserved pending issuance in early October of revisions to NIE 11-8-61. These changes will be incorporated in the final version of the complete NIE 11-4-61 scheduled for publication later in the year. A note that the military annexes are subject to further revision should be printed on the cover, in accordance with the procedure followed last year.

2. We have added some new material to these annexes in anticipation of possible consumer requirements over the next few months. There are new sections on "Forces in Europe Facing NATO," "Capabilities for Distant, Limited Military

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Actions, "Military Relationships with Other Bloc Countries," and "Military Assistance to Non-Bloc States." Our treatment of Soviet Military expenditures has been expanded somewhat.

3. Changes in the world situation and receipt of new intelligence have produced some changes to last year's estimates. The announced suspension of force reductions has led us to conclude that for some time to come the Soviet armed forces will be stabilized at the estimated present level of about 3,000,000 men. We now estimate a more gradual reduction in the heavy bomber force due to our belief that air-to-surface missiles probably have extended the useful life of these aircraft, particularly the BEAR.

25X1

- 2 -

TOP SECRET

4. The present draft carries only three expressed dissents: (a) Navy estimates a lower cumulative total production for BLINDER (para. 23, page 15); (b) Air Force holds that the present number of heavy bombers is higher than we estimate (page 17) and that it will increase somewhat over the next year or so; (c) Navy believes that the number of naval personnel should be higher in all categories except aviation. We recommend no change in the present text.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

ABBOT SMITH
Acting Chairman