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16 September 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
FROM: : Chief, Technology Transfer Assessment Center
SUBJECT : Response to Letter from Dr. Frank T. Manheim

1. Dr. Manheim's letter of 9 July to Admiral Inman describes a valid problem which has been around for many years without a satisfactory answer having been found. Without question, a wealth of information resides in Government files in the form of scientists' trip reports which have received little or no circulation.

2. What is done with the results of sponsored travel is, of course, the responsibility of the sponsoring organization and varies greatly from agency to agency. At least one organization, DoE, has traditionally collected scientists' trip reports centrally and disseminated them widely inside and outside of DoE. More generally in Government, such reports receive little circulation beyond the receiving office. In such cases, it requires some awareness, initiative and persistence on the part of anyone desiring access.

3. This matter comes up periodically for examination by organizations like the National Academy of Sciences and the National Science Foundation. To date, the problem has not aroused enough concerns in management to prompt a generalized approach. If Dr. Manheim feels sufficiently strong about the matter he should probably be encouraged to raise it with the President of the Academy and the Director of NSF, since their organizations are most directly concerned. At a minimum, it would seem that their library systems could be prevailed upon to maintain some kind of index of trip reports prepared for their own organizations.

4. A response to Dr. Manheim is attached for your signature. It has been discussed with appropriate analysts in OSWR and SOVA.

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