

The Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

18 April 1985

NOTE FOR THE DIRECTOR

FROM: Herbert E. Meyer  
Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council

RE: Soviets, the UK, and SDI

1. The April 15 edition of Pravda carried a commentary congratulating Foreign Secretary Howe for his recent SDI speech in which he "warned of the danger of the destabilization of the international situation and the intensification of the arms race as a result of the forcing through of the US star wars program."

2. The commentary went on to report that "during meetings between Soviet parliamentarians and representatives of British and business circles the opinion was expressed that in the very near future it will be possible to increase the volume of mutual trade between the two countries by 40-50 percent."

3. This explicit linkage between Howe's speech and the promise of a 50 percent boost in trade is causing something of a backlash in London, or so I am told. On the other hand, I suspect the implicit Soviet reward will not go unnoticed in the UK or elsewhere.

4. The Soviets sure are crude.

5. The Pravda text in translation is attached. I've marked the relevant sections.

*HEM*  
Herbert E. Meyer

Attachment