

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

OCA 88-1066
31 March 1988

OCA FILE

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SALT / Sen McClure

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Response to Senator McClure Concerning
ABM Breakout Story

Senator James McClure (R., Idaho) requested an intelligence briefing in a letter dated 25 February to cover allegations in a news article about Soviet breakout of the ABM Treaty.

The Senator attended a briefing sponsored by the SSCI on 2 March which covered the issue. The briefing was given by the NIO/SP and other Intelligence Community representatives.

On 9 and 14 March, the undersigned talked with Nancy Norrell and Peter Flory of the Senator's personal staff to ensure that all Senator McClure's questions had been answered. They agreed that there was no additional requirement.

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Senate Division
Office of Congressional Affairs

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IBAND

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 25, 1988

CGA FILE SAIT
Sen McClure

The Honorable William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Webster:

I am writing in response to an editorial in The Wall Street Journal of February 25, which suggests that the Soviet Union has begun to break out from the ABM Treaty. This conclusion is attributed to Air Force Intelligence. The CIA was reportedly briefed on these findings last week. The source for this information, which was reported on February 22 by The New York City Tribune, is described as "a senior military intelligence official."

As you are well aware, a development of this kind would have tremendous ramifications for our current defense and arms control policies. For that reason, I would like to request an immediate briefing by representatives of the intelligence community.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

James A. McClure
James A. McClure
United States Senator

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