

SECRET

(2 June '88, STAT

Memo for NIOs/USSR, SP, GPF

Subject: General Peroots' Proposal for an NIE on Soviet Arms Control Objectives

On 1 June I had a brief meeting with General Peroots (also Gordon Negus and Barry Horton) on his proposal for an NIE on Soviet arms control objectives. I believe we reached at least a tentative consensus on my recommendation that detailed analysis of the kinds of programs and technologies the Soviets might use arms control proposals to protect or block -- i.e., of the sort directly supportive of DOD's "competitive strategies" work -- should be generated through General Peroots' steering group for supporting that work in DOD. I noted that the NIC would try to be helpful.

We further agreed that we would probably have to do a broadly scoped NIE on Gorbachev's arms control strategy sometime during the next six months, either to inform a final drive by this administration for a START agreement or to support initial planning by its successor. We shared the view that this would be more than usually difficult to do effectively because of intense feelings among policymakers and the politically charged season we are entering. And we agreed that we ought to learn more about the administration's post-summit objectives before we commit to timing of an NIE on Soviet arms control strategy.

There are some action implications here which we can discuss after the next NIC staff meeting.