

28 September 1987

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: John J. Bird  
National Intelligence Officer for Warning

SUBJECT: Meeting on Strategic Warning and the Defense Guidance  
Illustrative Planning Scenario

1. The undersigned chaired a meeting on 24 September at CIA Headquarters to discuss a proposed new Defense Guidance Illustrative Planning Scenario. The purpose of the meeting was to ensure that proposed National Intelligence Officer for Warning (NIO/W) comments on the study are in general agreement with the Intelligence Community.

2. NIO/W began the meeting by providing brief background on the study, which was commissioned by Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Fred Ikle and placed under the aegis of John Bellinger, Director of Defense Guidance and Program Planning. In August discussions with John Bellinger, NIO/W stated that the written results of the study, drafted by a special group at DIA chaired by [redacted] probably would not be agreeable to CIA nor NSA and were certainly not to him. NIO/W offered to produce a draft of about six pages providing the basis for a defense guidance planning scenario useful to OSD and generally in consonance with Intelligence Community estimates of Soviet doctrine and US and Allied intelligence capabilities.

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3. [redacted] then commented that the genesis of the study dates back to the start of the Gramm-Rudman period. He stated that the two scenarios (Soviet attack against NATO and Soviet invasion of Iran) were pre-determined and that his study was bounded accordingly. In the case of the first, the scenario called for a quick strike to collapse the Central Region, with little Soviet industrial mobilization prior to D-Day.

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4. At this point [redacted] acknowledged that the study was prepared primarily using DIA's Research Directorate (DB) resources, with little coordination or input from JCS Support (JS) assets. He recommended that JS be provided two weeks in which to append comments to the extant draft and later recommended NSA be afforded the same opportunity.

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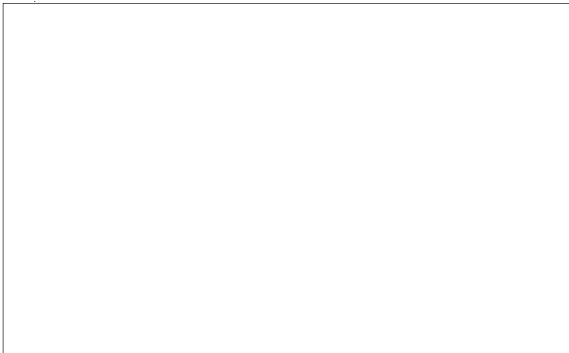
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5. At this point in the meeting each person was asked to comment on the study, focusing first on the Iran scenario and then the NATO segment. Except for isolated details, CIA, NSA and DIA/JS representatives were in agreement with the NIO/W draft prepared and circulated on 28 August. Regarding the limited industrial mobilization inherent in the NATO scenario, most agreed that, at a minimum, a caveat needs to be included in the study conveying the unlikelihood of a Soviet decision to attack 11 months hence without early mobilization. Even if such a scenario were to prove true, the study needs to take into account the necessary Soviet trade-off to achieve covert or restricted preparations at the expense of more limited force capabilities. Covert preparations become even more difficult as a result of the Stockholm accords regarding on-demand on-site exercise monitoring.

6. The meeting ended with agreement that DIA/JS and NSA will examine the study and provide appropriate written comments within two weeks. Another meeting will be held in about a month to assess progress toward consensus. All agreed the time and effort being put into ensuring accuracy are justified.

7. Attending the meeting were:

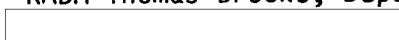


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John J. Bird

Distribution:

Mr. Dennis M. Nagy, Assistant Deputy Director for Research, DIA  
RADM Thomas Brooks, Deputy Director for JCS Support, DIA

 Chief, Operations Group A, NSA

Mr. Douglas J. MacEachin, Director of Soviet Analysis (DDI), CIA  
(plus copy to each attendee)

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