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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

26 June 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: National Security Review 18 (U)

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1. Pursuant to instructions of the NSC/Deputies Committee (NSC/DC) on 2 May 1990, National Security Review (NSR) 18 has been revised. In order to meet the task at hand, the Advisory Group/Counterintelligence (AG/CI) NSR 18 Working Group, which prepared the previous document, was directed to reconvene and address the issues presented by the NSC/DC. The revised NSR 18 was reviewed and cleared by the AG/CI membership on 20 June 1990, and subsequently approved by AG/CI Chairman William S. Sessions and Advisory Group/Security Countermeasures (AG/SCM) Chairman Maynard C. Anderson. I find that the threat the NSR portrays and projects is realistic, the strategy it suggests is decisive and concise, and the recommendations it makes appropriate to improve our CI and SCM efforts for the future. I endorse the document and transmit it for your action.

2. To update NSR 18, the threat section was completely rewritten. It now portrays in a more timely fashion the changes in Eastern European intelligence services and their impact on our CI and SCM programs. The strategy section, similarly rewritten, now more clearly articulates our priorities. Recommendations prepared last year but also overtaken by events, such as those addressing the State-SEO question, the establishment of a PCC for CI&SCM, the rewriting of NSDD 145 in light of the COMPUSEC Act of 1987, and others, have been excised from the NSR. Recent legislative initiatives by the Jacobs Committee are included in the rewrite. Finally, based on NSC/DC instructions, we removed a recommendation calling for screening polygraphs and substituted a statement on conflicting agency positions. We also added the comment that this is an issue that needs to be resolved.

3. I am informed that the NSC/DC will meet on 27 June 1990 to discuss the attached NSR 18. Given the currency of

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SUBJECT: National Security Review 18 Revision

information used in its preparation and the interagency coordination process employed in its production, I am confident that it will meet the NSC/DC's high expectations. [REDACTED]

*William H. Webster*

William H. Webster

Attachment:

NSR 18 [REDACTED]

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