

SEP 21 1969

**SECRET/SENSITIVE**

**MEMORANDUM FOR**

**Honorable Richard M. Helms  
Director of Central Intelligence**

**SUBJECT:                   The President's Request for a Quarterly  
Report on Soviet Strategic Forces**

**The concept for a Quarterly Report on Soviet Strategic Forces outlined in your September 18, 1969 memorandum is excellent. I assume that these reports would be approved by the United States Intelligence Board, as are the National Intelligence Estimates.**

**These reports will be of great value both in providing detailed, up-to-date information on Soviet strategic weapons developments and deployments and in providing early warning of suspicious activities that merit the attention of the Administration's senior officials.**

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MORI/CDF C05106175  
Pages 1-4

**Henry A. Kissinger**

**SECRET/SENSITIVE**



## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

## OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

18 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Henry A. Kissinger  
The White House

SUBJECT: The President's Request for a Quarterly Report  
on Soviet Strategic Forces

1. Would you be good enough to advise me as to whether what is proposed below will appropriately satisfy the President's request at the NSC meeting, 10 September, for a quarterly report on Soviet strategic forces.

2. Such an all-source quarterly report would cover the current status -- operational and under construction -- of deployed strategic offensive and defensive weapon systems and forces in a format that highlights changes and new developments between reporting periods. In addition, the report would make appropriate reference to the relationship of observed developments to current estimates.

3. The report would cover in highlight fashion significant testing (e.g., MRV, FOBS, ABM) and other developmental activities that took place during the reporting period. It would note important developments at the test ranges, such as new silos or new radars, that presaged future system capabilities.

4. The format of the report would involve the use of tables to present the significant statistics, supplemented and amplified by brief textual statements. The report is in essence an intelligence report conveying evaluated facts with interpretive comments. The report is not the vehicle for arguing intelligence problems, although where uncertainty or differences exist these would be noted.

5. The subjects to be covered are listed in the attachment. The "Other" category would allow for the inclusion of material relevant to the purpose of the report that was not needed or available for each report. Such things as the Soviet satellite reconnaissance program, Soviet statements on strategic doctrine, or Soviet military budget matters could be reported.

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6. In addition to tables and text, the format of the report could include graphic material -- bar charts, line graphs, etc. -- that helped convey the ideas of magnitude and change.



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7. We can have a mock-up of the proposed report for the President's review by early October. Regular production could begin for distribution on 9 December, three months after USIB approval of NIE 11-8-69. Alternatively, we could aim for regular production keyed to the first of January and the succeeding quarterly periods.



Richard Helms  
Director

Attachment: - 1  
Draft Table of Contents

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President's Quarterly Report on Soviet Strategic Forces

-- Draft Table of Contents --

- I. Intercontinental Attack
  - A. Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles
  - B. Submarine Ballistic Missiles
  - C. Heavy Bombers
- II. Peripheral Attack
  - A. Medium and Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles
  - B. Medium Bombers
- III. Strategic Defense
  - A. Antiballistic Missiles
  - B. Surface-to-air Missiles
  - C. Interceptor Aircraft
- IV. Other (as significant information is available)

Examples :

- Satellite reconnaissance developments
- Soviet statements on strategic doctrine
- Soviet military budget developments
- Soviet developments in early warning radars
- ASW developments

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Laurence E. Lynn, Jr.

SUBJECT: Helms' Proposal for a Quarterly Report on Soviet  
Strategic Forces

Dick Helms has developed a concept and outline for the Quarterly Report on Soviet Strategic Forces requested by the President at the September 10 NSC meeting. The concept looks quite satisfactory.

He does not mention whether or not these reports will be approved by the U.S. Intelligence Board. To have any value, the reports should be reviewed by USIB so that all agency views can be reflected.

In your return memorandum to Helms, I suggest that you emphasize the importance of these reports as an "early warning" vehicle as well as a compendium of up-to-date facts.

RECOMMENDATION: That you sign the enclosed response to Helms.

Enclosure

Tab A - Memo to Helms

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