

~~TOP SECRET - MATHEMATICS~~ COPY CONTROL SYSTEM

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON



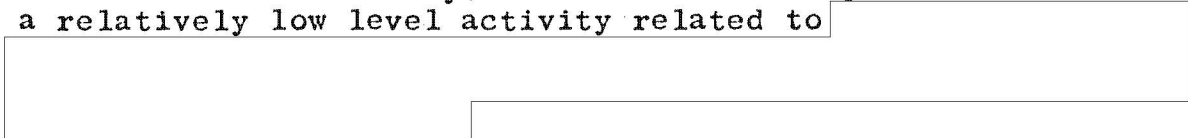
7 JUN 1968

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Anti-Satellite Capability

A subject frequently treated at ExCom and PSAC is satellite vulnerability. We have over the years maintained a relatively low level activity related to



Since the Soviets may have the ability to disable our satellites, it may be desirable to consider methods of deterring this possibility. One method considered by some people is to develop an anti-satellite capability ourselves. The two Safeguard sites which we might deploy as "research and development" sites would give us such a capability.

On the other hand, other people feel that the best assurance we have is that the Soviets, like us, are very happy with the present arrangement and don't want to upset the balance or risk escalation by molesting our satellites.

Perhaps the present situation is a stable one; nevertheless, in my opinion, it would be very desirable if we had at least a minimal capability to shoot them down. That way we would all be kept honest, since they always can shoot ours down.

JML

John L. McLucas

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