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7 August 1964  
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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : DCI Comments on the Report of the Hyland Panel

REFERENCES : a. [REDACTED]  
b. [REDACTED]  
(To be distributed through restricted channels)

1. In restricted session at the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) meeting on 5 August while Dr. McMillan, Director, National Reconnaissance Office (D/NRO) was present, the Chairman of USIB commented that he had met with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on Monday, 3 August, to go over the information which the [REDACTED] Panel had reported to USIB on 1 August (references a and b).

2. Mr. McCone expressed his great concern over the probability cited by the [REDACTED] Panel that the Soviets might come up with anti-satellite capabilities and operations. He pointed out that we are becoming increasingly dependent on satellite reconnaissance, and noted that we may be in a similar position to that which existed regarding U-2 reconnaissance before the Powers' incident. Mr. McCone called particular attention to the [REDACTED] Panel belief that an anti-satellite weapon capability need not require a nuclear warhead.

3. The DCI stated that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had urged on him, and he in turn wished to bring before USIB, the necessity for making a maximum effort to develop defensive actions which would protect U. S.

[REDACTED] Approved by the NRC

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

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satellites from destruction. Mr. McCone recalled that some time ago the Air Force had been urged to make an all-out effort in this matter. He requested that the D/NRO review what was being done to be sure that enough money, manpower and other resources are devoted to this effort so that, whenever this Soviet threat faces us, we will be prepared.

4. The Chairman also reported that the Hyland Panel was very pleased with the presentations they had received. They thought that the input into intelligence activities from the scientific and technical viewpoint had greatly improved. The Panel noted that they had been working about 11 years and, if you took as a unit of one the situation in the intelligence community that they found 9 to 11 years ago, the Panel would place a value of 25 on the situation one or two years ago and 100 as of today. Mr. McCone welcomed this evidence of the progress which had been made, and said that he was sure that the community would want to continue this trend. He felt it was important to recognize that we are becoming increasingly dependent on scientific resources to make more important inputs to intelligence.

5. The DCI then noted that a flash had been received that a space craft had come down in Venezuela with a camera in it. He said that the CIA station there had been asked to check on this report. If it was true, Mr. McCone said that NRO and CIA should send technical people down there right away to investigate, since this could be very serious. Dr. McMillan said that, from the reported dimensions, 3 feet by 5 feet, with a parachute attached, this could be a re-entry bucket. There was one such U.S. re-entry vehicle unaccounted for. After further discussion of reports received, including some questions as to whether a camera was involved, Mr. McCone said that he was awaiting a report from the CIA station there. If the report was true, prompt action should be taken.

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6. In light of the above comments by the DCI and the discussion, the USIB:

a. Noted the request by the DCI that the D/NRO review efforts being made to develop defensive actions which would protect U. S. satellites from destruction, and to assure that enough resources were being devoted to this effort in the light of the possible Soviet threat cited by the Hyland Panel.

b. Noted Mr. McCone's statement that, if the reports of a space craft having come down in Venezuela were confirmed, prompt action should be taken by NRO and CIA to send technical personnel to investigate.

[REDACTED]  
Executive Sec [REDACTED]

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