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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

July 21, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL BRADBURN
DR. NAKA

SUBJECT: Status of SALT

SALT V at Helsinki is at a virtual standstill pending further White House and State Department guidance on the U.S. drafts of the proposed Defensive Systems and Offensive Systems Agreements. The President has directed that efforts will be made to conclude a Defensive Systems Agreement as soon as possible, followed within a stipulated length of time by an Offensive Systems Agreement.

The present drafts reflect some basic differences of opinion within the U.S. delegation and further meaningful negotiation will probably not occur pending decisions from Washington. The issues are categorized as follows:

Defensive Systems

1. Definition of an ABM system.
2. Mutual agreement vs consultation on non-ABM radars.
3. Inclusion of futuristic ABM systems.

Offensive Systems

1. "Operational Status" vs "External Completion" of ICBM silos.

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It is interesting to note that there are no numeric limits nor aircraft limitations cited in the proposed Offensive Systems Agreement. These factors were integral to the SALT 4 August proposal and appear to be somewhat of a trade-off now, since the Soviets did not want numeric limits on quantity of launchers below what they would have as of a certain date, but they did want to include aircraft platforms stationed in Europe in the Agreement against an as of date limit of parity.

The ACSAN people are expecting that there will be a "vacation break" sometime in August during SALT V.

Bud Coyle

HAROLD S. COYLE, JR.
Major, USAF

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