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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 5, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: NRO START/INF Collection Initiatives

Since our meeting with President Reagan, I have reviewed several reconnaissance satellite alternatives for responding to the recommendations of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) for additional intelligence capabilities required in the 1990s (particularly in the context of a potential START agreement). As you recall, our discussions with the President focused on

[Redacted] (b)(1)
(b)(3)

My principal constraint in this review has been to keep the total development of both these initiatives at a reasonable level, while still addressing the needs pointed out by the SSCI.

The two options summarized below provide a range of capabilities with corresponding costs.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

OPTION 1 - Preferred

[Redacted]



(b)(1)
(b)(3)

ADDSY PROCESSED
Date 280506 Initials AK

[Redacted]

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BUDGET (dollars in):

	<u>FY89</u>	<u>FY90</u>	<u>FY91</u>	<u>FY92</u>	<u>FY93</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>FY89-93</u>

DISCUSSION: Option 1 provides the earliest possible collection system improvements in support of the INF/START treaties. The (1993) will guarantee of all key treaty sites, including treaty-limited-item production facilities, Portal Perimeter Monitoring sites, Field Training Areas (activity monitoring), and sites selected for on-site inspection. The constellation will provide the additional treaty coverage without penalizing coverage of current intelligence requirements, and will also provide of other areas like the Soviet

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(1)
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OPTION 2 - Alternate

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(b)(3)

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[] Same as Option 1.

BUDGET (dollars in []):

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

<u>FY89</u>	<u>FY90</u>	<u>FY91</u>	<u>FY92</u>	<u>FY93</u>	<u>TOTAL FY89-93</u>
[]					

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend Option 1. It improves our collection capabilities as early as possible, and gives us the most time to prepare for the long-term compliance and monitoring phase of a START agreement. It addresses Senators Boren and Cohen's desire for improved coverage as early as possible, is considerably less costly in FY 1989 than the approach recommended by the SSCI []

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[], provides the [] schedule desired by the SSCI, and [] capability by []

If Option 1 is too costly, a reasonable fallback would be Option 2. Option 2 meets the spirit of the SSCI call for improved collection capabilities, but does so at a lower cost by delaying [] operations to 1997. Option 2 would still provide the collection capabilities required for the long-term compliance and monitoring phase of a START agreement.

A recent Intelligence Community study concluded that

[]

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(b)(3)

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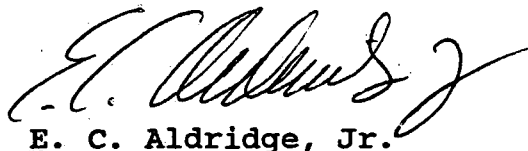
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The NRO also recognizes and supports the need for setting funding aside for improved exploitation of the additional collection that would be provided by these systems. Exploitation funding, however, is not included in the NRO options provided above.

Finally, there are still specific benefits to be gained from a [redacted] system. We are continuing to study such an initiative and intend to provide a program option in our formal budget submission to you later this spring.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)



E. C. Aldridge, Jr.

1 Attachment
Point Paper on SSCI Study
(BYE-28090/88)

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