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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505



23 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable David Packard
The Honorable Lee A. DuBridge
The Honorable John L. McLucas

1. Since the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia a year ago August, a highly knowledgeable working group under my guidance has been reviewing across the board and in great detail the strategic warning problem faced by the intelligence community. I have just received and reviewed their report.

2. The study was limited to strategic warning, defined as that warning which intelligence might provide prior to an actual attack. It considered the shift in our warning capabilities over the past ten years, then reviewed in detail our present capabilities. Thereafter the group made an assessment of the warning potential of possible future collection systems.

3. This study reaffirms what we have advocated and endorsed in the NRO Executive Committee: the need on an urgent basis of a near real time readout satellite reconnaissance system in support of the strategic warning process.

4. I felt you would want to be aware of this finding.

Rich
Richard Helms

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