

Executive Registry
100-761

CONFIDENTIAL
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

30 JAN 1964

Honorable John A. McCone
Director, Central Intelligence
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear John:

We have made substantial progress in the past year in refining our estimates of Soviet general purpose forces. I have been particularly pleased with the joint effort in this field by CIA and DIA which was reflected most recently in the new estimate, NIE 11-14-63, "Capabilities of the Soviet General Purpose Forces, 1963-1969." I would appreciate your passing on my thanks to those persons responsible for this work.

I believe that this new estimate gives us a much sounder basis for our own planning and for planning within NATO. But along with a better picture of the true general purpose force strengths of the USSR, the estimate does reveal limits to our knowledge. I am optimistic that further progress can be made toward definitive calculation of the strengths and weaknesses of the Soviets. I will be interested in seeing the results of your follow-on studies of costing, equipment production and inventory, and tables of organization and equipment.

I have sent a similar communication to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Sincerely,

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

(EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FILE)

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10

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	DCI	<i>3/31/64</i>	<i>Noted by DCI.</i>
2			[]
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ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

✓ Recommendation approved by DCI.

A copy of this has gone to General Carter. No other distribution has been made. Recommend you approve sending a copy to Sherman Kent and one to Jimmy Lay to pass to USIB members.

H. Knoche

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
E. H. Knoche	1/31/64

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		DATE	INITIALS	
1	Mr. Knoche <i>1/31</i>		<i>2/4</i>	<i>AK</i>	
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	APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
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	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
Remarks: For your decision. I presume this should go to ONE for info, but I am never sure whether or not there is also USIB interest. <i>Sent to DCI recommending he approve dissem to ADINE and Exec. Ady USIB to pass to USIB members</i>					
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.				DATE	
O/ExecDir/rita				30 Jan 64	
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