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By MP NARA Data 4/09

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8 May 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Amory

SUBJECT: Briefing Notes re Soviet Capabilities for Long Range Attack

1. Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles

- A. Intelligence community currently engaged in re-examination of evidence relating to Seviet ICBM production and deployment.
 - 1. Review not yet completed, but may lead to some revision of previous estimates.
- B. Last year CIA estimated a Soviet program which would have given them 150 ICBMs on launcher in mid-1961.
 - 1. Other opinions in intelligence community ranged from Army-Navy view (50 in mid-1961) to Air Force view (200 in mid-1961).
 - 2. GA estimate for mid-1963 was 400. Army-Navy, 200; Air Force, 700.
- C. CIA now balleves that Soviet strength in ICBMs on launchers as of mid-1961 probably more nearly approximates 50-100.
 - 1. While evidence indicates a large commitment of resources, program thus far appears to have been moderate in tempo.
 - 2. We believe that 100-150 in the highest present force level which can be reconciled with the evidence.
 - 3. A rigid interpretation of the evidence could lead to estimate of less than 50
- D. For future buildup, CIA estimates that Soviete probably will have 200-400 operational launchers by mid-1964 -- some for a new ICBM system.
 - 1. Cannot exclude the possibility of as many as 450 by mid-1963.

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E. Should note that these estimates represent CIA views -- current views of other intelligence agencies may well vary considerably.

II. Medium and Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles.

- A. Soviets now have available ballistic missiles of 700 (86-3) and 1,100 n.m. (85-4) range which provide overlapping coverage of targets on the Soviet periphery.
 - 1. Last year we estimated a requirement of about 250 launchers for these missiles -- 150 for SS-3 and 100 for SS-4 -- to be attained in mid-1961.
 - 2. Requirement for missile inventory set at 450 for 85-3 and 300 for 85-4, to be achieved by mid-1963.
- B. GIA estimates the same requirements for launchers and missiles, but believes they will be met by mid-1962.
 - 1. Mid-1961 strength estimated at 100 \$8-3 launchers (300 missiles) and 125 88-4 launchers (400 missiles).
 - C. CIA estimates now take account of new 2,000 n.m. missile.
 - 1. Sees a buildup to 50-100 launchers and 150-450 missiles of this type by mid 1765.
 - 2. By that time, reduction in medium range missile strength will probably have begun.

III. Long-Range Bembers

- Al Previous estimates of Soviet long range bomber force substantially unchanged.
 - 1. Mid-1961 strength of Soviet Long-Range Aviation estimated at 150 heavy bombers, jets and turboprops, and 950 jet medium bombers.
 - 2. Estimate a decline in this force to about 100 heavies and 700 mediums by 1966.

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- 3. Medium bomber category will include perhaps 100 new supersonic "dash" mediums.
- B. Air Force estimates higher -- 200 heavies for 1962-1966 period, and slower decline in mediums.

IV. Submarine-Launched Missiles

- A. Believe Soviets now have two types of submarines capable of launching 150 n.m. or 350 n.m. bailistic missiles.
- Converted "Z" class -- estimate USSR now has 6 of these, each with two missis tubes. Doubt that they will convert more.
- 2. 'G" class -- estimated 15 now operational and 18 from mid-1962 on. Believe each can launch 3-4 missiles.
- B. Soviets have also developed a 300 n.m. supersonic cruise-type missile which sould be operational this year.
 - 1. Have not identified the submarine for which it was designed.
- C. Estimate that Soviets will go to nuclear powered subs equipped with new, longer range (500 1,000 n.m.) missies.
 - 1. USSR could have 2 of these by mid-1962 building up to 18 in mid-1966.
 - 2. Might have a few nuclear-powered missite subs this year if they used missites already available.

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