L. Thomas 24 April 1950

## Possible Collecting Means: Soviet Missile Progress

- 1. Carefully consider or reconsider all possible means for exploiting German scientists believed to be working in the USER on missiles or related projects. It is likely that ways of obtaining information from these men that were considered previously and dismissed as "not worthy of follow up" would deserve consideration in the new urgency context. In support of this, an effort to update the dossiers of German scientists working in the USER might be worthwhile as a way of bringing to light new leads or means by which particular scientists could be contacted (e.g. the fact that "Y" worked closely with "Z", who is still in the USER, until Jan. 1957 when he was allowed to return to his home in the Soviet Zone of Germany.)
- 2. Prepare a relatively non-technical primer on the ABC's of missiles and make it required reading for all who process Communist Most intelligence. The work (pemphlet size, preferably) to be aimed mainly at personnel normally engaged in the collection and precessing of non-technical intelligence. The content could point in a general way to MMM U.S. requirements re Soviet missiles and present enough background data to sharpen interest and understanding. Adoption of this procedure might bring about the "capture" of some off-the-main-path pieces of missile intelligence that are now passing unnoticed through the screen (e.g. economic items pertinent to missiles in ways that are not apparent on the surface).
- 3. There is on hand in the U.S. a considerable fund of Soviet scientific literature pertinent to missiles and related fields that has thus far been only lightly exploited, and that has not been specifically reviewed in the light of post-Sputnik evaluations of Soviet middle capabilities. It is very likely that a in-the-wisdom-of-hindsight review of this literature would answer some key questions about Soviet missile developments and call attention to leads worth following up by other means. The main roadblock to such a review is the shortage of Russian readers. This problem might be dented, if not solved, by hiring for summer work a crew of Russian-reading graduate students and college-level teachers to make a frontal assault on the backleg. The effort could be directed mainly toward finding the high-grade ore and bringing it to the attention of Russian-reading missile experts. Although a large-scale literature review effort would be rather costly, it could obviate the use of some rash and still more costly techniques.
- 4. It is probable that the Soviets have shot much motion picture film of missile construction, launching, and related activities, and that in their haste to exploit the propaganda advantages of Sputnik success some of this film was inadequately censored and/or carelessly distributed. Thus, it would seem worthwhile to divert considerable procurement attention to film libraries (especially in the Satellite countries) likely to contain such film.
- 5. Use hypnosis and mind reading techniques to extract information from Soviet experts in missiles and related fields when they attend international scientific conferences. It is difficult to believe, but at least one authority in the field of hypnosis claims that extracting of the type envisaged here can be done without the subject being aware of it.

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