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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

11 May 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. David Mark. State (INR)



SUBJECT : The 1970 Soviet Military Estimates

1. During the past several months we have received suggestions and recommendations concerning the forthcoming annual military estimates from the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the White House Staff. We have also had discussions with the Director of Central Intelligence and generally within the Agency.

2. It is clear that this year's papers will have to be very much more detailed and voluminous than they have ever been before. There is a stated requirement for more detail, more argument, more history, more graphs and charts, and more extensive presentation of the analyses on which estimates rest. We shall certainly have to seek ways to speed the coordination of the drafts.

3. Partly for this reason we are, with the approval of the Director, making some changes in the organization of the respective papers, adding two new ones:

a. NIE 11-8 will be entitled Soviet Forces for Inter-Continental Attack. It will correspond to previous versions of NIE 11-8, but will omit consideration of MRBM's, IRBM's, medium bombers, etc., except as some allusions to such systems may be necessary. (Scheduled for 1 September)

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b. NIE 11-3-70 on Soviet Strategic Defense Forces will be essentially unchanged in content, except that on the request of the White House Staff Soviet ASW capabilities will be included. (Scheduled for 1 October)

c. NIE 11-14-70 on Soviet Forces for Attack in Eurasia will contain most of what has been in previous versions of NIE 11-14, plus MRBM's, IRBM's, medium bombers, etc., but will exclude some few sections which have discussed forces for distant military action. (Scheduled for November-December)

d. NIE 11-10-70, a new paper, will cover Soviet capabilities for using military forces in distant areas -- primarily in the "third world." Most of the hardware will be covered in NIE 11-14-70; this paper will deal with some aspects of airlift and sea lift, with the problem of bases, communications, support, etc., and with political considerations (Scheduled for December)

e. We also have requests for a much shorter NIE designed for the highest level of policy-makers, which will present in relatively brief compass the general conclusions of NIE 11-8 and 11-3 with some indications of supporting evidence and analysis, and with such other broad considerations as may be appropriate. (Scheduled probably for October-November)

4. We are prepared to discuss these projects with representatives at a meeting to consider terms of reference for NIE 11-8-70. These terms of reference will be circulated within a few days.



ABBOT SMITH
Director
National Estimates

(u.c.)

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