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Executive Registry
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18 AUG 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: [Redacted], Chairman
Technology Transfer Intelligence Committee

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FROM: John N. McMahon
Acting Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Computer Technology Transfer

1. The recent estimate on [Redacted]

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The Intelligence Community's Executive Steering Group for Strategic Planning (ESG/P), chaired by the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, determined that there were national security concerns associated with the probable proliferation of supercomputers

[Redacted] particularly in the areas of weapons design, communications security, and cryptanalysis. Efforts are now under way within the Community to address the discrete concerns associated with these specific problems. [Redacted]

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2. Underlying the whole issue of the loss of US preeminence in the field of supercomputers and the national security concerns presented by supercomputer proliferation, however, is the threat that our own advanced computer technology might--through innocent or malicious technology transfer--be used to our own very great disadvantage. Based on the advice of the ESG/P relative to establishing some kind of awareness of the technology transfer threat in this sector of private industry, I would like the Technology Transfer Intelligence Committee to explore with the Department of Commerce a means to educate the US computer industry concerning the threat posed by losses of US licensed technology or Japanese indigenously developed technology [Redacted] to the Soviet Union and elsewhere. The computer industry has been queried informally concerning the value of such an awareness program and the response was enthusiastic. [Redacted]

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3. The Director of the IC Staff's Planning and Policy Staff, [Redacted] is particularly well-connected in this sector of private industry and you should feel free to take advantage of his contacts and expertise as you see fit. [Redacted] can be reached on extension [Redacted]

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/S/ John N. McMahon

John N. McMahon

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SECRET

SUBJECT: Computer Technology Transfer

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(11 August 1983)

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