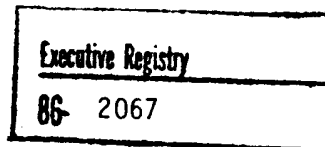


The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505



May 7, 1986

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I talked to the Director about the future use of the Military Advisory Panel, and he was strongly supportive of the arrangements that you and I discussed on the telephone. Specifically, we would like to refocus the Panel on national intelligence products where the broad experience of the Panel members, including their insight into the policy-relevant aspects of Intelligence Community work on the Soviet military, can better be brought to bear than on individual research projects.

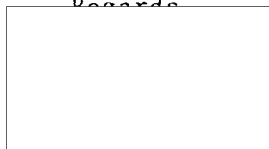
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I would appreciate your talking with the members of the Panel and ensuring that they are content with this change in arrangements. Based on our earlier discussions and comments of others on the Panel to me, I believe that the change of focus will be welcome. At the same time, I am convinced that the thorough, early review of Community drafts on these issues will contribute to their quality and, in particular, to their policy relevance. I envision the Panel having discussions with the relevant NIO and offering suggestions, and also forwarding comments directly to the DCI and me.

With regard to administrative arrangements, I would suggest that support for the Panel be moved to the National Intelligence Council. Your initial contact will be with Hal Ford.

I want to thank you again for your willingness to continue chairing the Panel. I think it's important and so does Bill.

Records



Robert M. Gates

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