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Soviet aim is arms superiority, officials suggest

Washington (AP)—The Secretary of Defense and the director of the Central Intelligence Agency suggested yesterday that the Soviet Union may have abandoned an arms policy of parity with the United States to seek weapons superiority.

Donald H. Rumsfeld and George Bush declined direct responses on separate broadcast interview programs as to the content of the latest national intelligence estimate compiled by the CIA. Unattributed press reports concerning the document prepared for the President said the Russians are working toward arms superiority.

Secretary Rumsfeld on the AEC program Issues and Answers was asked if the CIA's survey was in agreement with the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency, which had been saying for some time that the Russians were seeking superiority.

"I can say this much, that it is true that the judgments within the entire U.S. intelligence community have closed and come closer together, and that is good," he said.

On the CBS program Face the Nation, Mr. Bush, the CIA director, was asked for his personal assessment as to whether the Russians were seeking superiority or whether the United States may be inferior

in view of current trends.

"There are some worrisome signs that are being looked at very, very closely, worrisome signs that are being reviewed with a ferocity or intensity this year that perhaps weren't examined with the same intensity last year," Mr. Bush said.

Mr. Rumsfeld said it was his own opinion that over the past 15 to 20 years the Soviet military trend has been adverse to the United States. "If those trends continue and are not arrested and reversed, it would have the effect of injecting a fundamental instability in the world," he said.