

#48

~~SECRET~~

7 0000

3

3 JUN 75

209-Space

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY (STRATEGIC PROGRAMS),
OASD (PA&E)

SUBJECT: U. S. Space Defense Program (U)

I agree with the concern expressed in your 14 May 1975 memorandum that the Soviets' extensive use of tactical surveillance satellites suggests that we need to increase our emphasis in the anti-satellite area.

We currently have an Air Force R&D program to develop a nonnuclear kill anti-satellite capability. Additionally, we have coordinated efforts to (1) develop the necessary space surveillance capability to detect new satellites and to maintain timely data on existing ones, and (2) to develop the ability to detect, evade or otherwise frustrate Soviet attacks on our satellites.

These R&D efforts are being pursued at relatively modest levels of effort. The nonnuclear kill effort is currently in a source selection phase which represents a critical decision on the direction of the program. I believe it best to await the completion of that phase within the next month or so and then see what kind of capability is offered by the proposed program. We can then work with you to define the best course of action for the future.

I think that the best vehicle would be a PM. I do not believe we will have time for sufficient thought to make a good POM issue out of it this year.

Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 U.S.C. 552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 26 FEB 2014 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: x Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6)
MDR: 13 -M- 4647

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: FEB 26 2014

SIGNED

John B. Walsh
Deputy Director
Strategic and Space Systems

AD/DS/Mr. [redacted] and/3D136 [redacted] 3Jun75

✓M&RS
DD/S&SS
AD/DS Cmbk

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

~~CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS, UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE, DECLASSIFIED ON 12/31/99~~

~~SECRET~~

13-M-4647

~~SECRET~~

15 2019

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

M. Walsh

1



May 14, 1975

PROGRAM ANALYSIS
AND EVALUATION

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC SYSTEMS, ODDR&E

SUBJECT: U.S. Anti-Satellite Program (U)

John,

After hearing about the Soviets' OKEAN-75 Exercise in which they made extensive use of ocean surveillance satellites, I am concerned that we are not putting enough emphasis on our anti-satellite defense efforts.

I suggest that:

- we accelerate the R&D pace of our anti-satellite efforts toward the development of a non-nuclear kill capability (maybe with a "mini-nuke" backup);
- we plan an anti-satellite demonstration as quickly as is practicable;
- assess alternatives to our anti-satellite capability to protect our ships;
- write a PM or DCP now to get a program under way;
- make this an issue for the POM Review and RDT&E Issue Paper.

Any thoughts or suggestions on this?

E. C. Aldridge, Jr.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Strategic Programs)

~~DASD (SP), OADR~~
~~AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 1/23/83.~~

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: FEB 26 2014

~~SECRET~~