

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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March 15, 1976

MR

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

BRENT SCOWCROFT *B*

SUBJECT:

Follow-Up on Satellite Vulnerability

As you, George Bush and I have discussed, the United States has no anti-satellite capability at the present time and only a minimal R&D program for the development of such a program.

We also discussed the fact that current studies are under way in this area. Under NSC auspices, a team of civilian experts is examining the situation. CIA is doing a supporting study in connection with this NSC effort.

The NSC study is examining three major areas:

- (1) Near-term measures (3-5 years) which can be taken to decrease the vulnerability of our satellites;
- (2) Projection of the military use of space over the next 15 years, including analysis of the problems of satellite survivability; and
- (3) The most feasible options for development of a U. S. anti-satellite capability.

While this is a very extensive study, I anticipate receiving a preliminary report by the end of April, including a description of alternates for reducing satellite vulnerability over the near-term. Completion of the final study is planned for September.

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