MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT
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.