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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING

1 APR 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

SUBJECT: SIGINT Support in Wartime

In the report on National/Tactical Interface provided to the Congress, we committed ourselves to develop a longrange plan to provide intelligence support to military tactical units under the direction of USDR&E. To accomplish this objective, the Army, Navy and Air Force have been requested to each prepare a Service plan for their tactical units. You are requested to provide assistance in the development of these plans. In addition, you are requested to prepare, in conjunction with the Services, Commands, and appropriate Agencies, a plan for providing SIGINT support to all echelons of military command, including the National Command Authority, under wartime circumstances. This plan should include:

a. An overall concept for the provision of SIGINT to military commanders in wartime and the actions required in peacetime to support such a wartime concept. This first interation should address the NATO and Korean environments. Subsequent iterations will cover other wartime and contingency circumstances.

b. Identification of systems and programs needed to implement the concept, the relative role or functions of each, and the interface issues requiring resolutions for effective operation. Tactical reconnaissance systems, intelligence processing systems, and other surveillance systems capable of providing SIGINT information on enemy forces should be included in this inventory.

c. Procedures and systems needed for information request, system tasking, and information distribution.

d. Security classification and information release issues.

e. The survivability of a minimum essential level of intelligence support in crisis or war consistent with the survivability and vulnerability of the unit supported.

f. Training and personnel skill issues.

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g. Specific attention should be given to providing SIGINT support from U.S. and Allied sources to U.S. units assigned to NATO, and to providing support to NATO and Allied Commands from U.S. sources.

Results from this plan and those of the Army, Navy and Air Force plans will be merged, along with Command comments, into a consolidated plan by DUSDR&E($C^3I$) in coordination with DUSP. The DCI, DIA, and other concerned agencies will participate in the review and consolidation process.

Your plan should be completed by 1 September 1978. The consolidated plan will be completed by 1 December 1978.

Gerald P. Dinneen

Gerald P. Dinneen
Principal Deputy

cc:
DCI
Secretaries of the Military Departments
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