

Doc # 112

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11 OCT 1977  
209-Spec

DD (S&SS) CHRON/CMBK  
M&RS  
OAD (DS) CHRON/CMBK

MEMORANDUM FOR JANE SMITH, OASD(PA)

THRU: RADM Ross Williams, Acting Deputy Director Strategic and Space Systems

ROSS N. WILLIAMS  
RADM, U.S. NAVY

11 OCT 1977

(S) You should be aware that DoD has been directed to develop a comprehensive security plan for our Space Defense programs. Although the details of such a plan remain to be determined, it is clear that our security policy as contained within the 1972 memorandum of Deputy Secretary Rush will be revised in the immediate future.

(S) For your background, this direction was given by the President as a part of his policy decisions on the portion of PRM/NSC-23 regarding anti-satellite systems.

(U) This information may be of help to you in preparing your response to the attached 26 July 1977 memorandum from the Director of Information, USAF on this subject.

Robert C. Yost  
Assistant Director  
Defensive Systems

Attachment

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 11 2015

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHI  
Date: 11 JUN 2015 Authority: EO 13526 + 5 U.S.C. § 552  
Declassify:  Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify in Part: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
MDR: 13 -M- 4711

~~DECLASSIFIED BY: [Signature]~~  
~~SUBJECT TO: [Signature]~~  
~~APPROVED FOR: [Signature]~~  
~~DATE: [Signature]~~

AD(DS)/Mr. Yost/3D136/75385/7 October 1977/smh

~~SECRET~~  
13-M-4711

Page determined to be Unclassified  
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS  
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date: JUN 11 2015

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

16 September 1977

Memo For Mr. Yost, DDR&E , 3D136

via ~~RAM Williams~~ *PHW 9/16*

Re: Air Force Request for Public Affairs  
Guidance, Space Defense Systems, 26 July 77

Attached is a memorandum from BG Dalton,  
Director of Information, USAF, to the  
Director of Defense Information, OASD (PA)  
requesting:

- 1) Updating of guidance in DEPSECDEF  
Memorandum of 15 May 1972 on  
US ASAT Programs
- 2) A review of current security classifi-  
cation guides

Would appreciate your assistance in responding;  
If this will take time, we ought to make  
an interim reply, in view of the date of  
the SAF01 letter (It was misplaced).

Would like to discuss this with you on Monday.  
Many thanks.

*Jane Smith*

Jane Smith, OASD (PA)  
X 50192 2E757

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL

Authority: EO 13526

Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS

Date: JUN 11 2015

~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330



JUL 26 1977

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION, OFFICE OF THE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, PUBLIC AFFAIRS

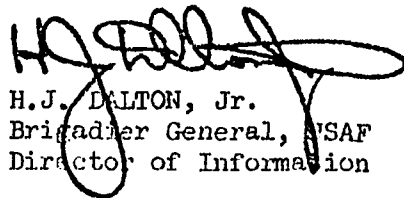
SUBJECT: Public Affairs Guidance, Space Defense Systems

Reference is made to DEPSECDEF Memorandum for Secretaries of Military Departments, 15 May 1972 (Atch 1), signed by Kenneth Rush, Subject: United States Anti-Satellite Systems. OASD/PA in coordination with DDR&E has recently cleared for release answers to query which are beyond the guidance contained in the 1972 memorandum (See Atch 2,3,4).

Since this memorandum is the basis for Air Force public affairs guidance and the Advanced Space Defense Program Security Guide, updated guidance on this subject is required for the Air Force to be fully responsive to requests for information by OASD/PA and the press.

Attached is a memorandum to SAF/OI from Air Force R&D Space (AF/RDS) (Atch 5) which raises concerns about information cleared for release by OASD/PA which under current guidance would be considered classified.

Request that the guidance in the 1972 memorandum be updated and a review of current security classification guides on this subject be undertaken.

  
H.J. DALTON, Jr.  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Director of Information

5 Atchs

1. (S) Memo fm DEPSECDEF, 15 May 1972.
2. News Query dated 5 Jul 77.
3. DoD Briefing Book, Subj: Anti-Satellite Warfare, 31 May 1977.
4. DoD Briefing Book Subj: Anti-Satellite System, 31 May 1977.
5. AF/RDS (S) Ltr, 7 Jul 77, Subject: Potential Security Violation



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

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DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 11 2015

15 MAY 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR Secretaries of the Military Departments  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Director, Defense Research & Engineering  
Assistant Secretaries of Defense  
Assistants to the Secretary of Defense  
Directors of Defense Agencies

SUBJECT: United States Anti-Satellite Systems

There has been considerable discussion in the press recently about U.S. anti-satellite missions and capabilities.

Public attention will not be drawn toward the development of U.S. anti-satellite systems. Any publicized demonstration of developmental work or actual test of such a capability requires prior approval by the Secretary of Defense. Within the Department of Defense all anti-satellite efforts are to be classified at least at the SECRET level. Proposed public announcements will be cleared by ASD (Public Affairs). Each addressee should insure that proper security controls are established and maintained for activities falling within his jurisdiction.

*Kenneth Rush*  
Kenneth Rush

Soc Def Cont Nr. X-241.6

DS72-1872 ~~SECRET~~

DIRECTORATE FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION  
PRESS DIVISION

DATE 5 July 1977 TIME 1100 CDD REP Jane Smith

QUERY FROM DoD News Briefing, Tuesday, July 5, 1977, 11:30 a.m.

QUERY: Aviation Week has a strong story today saying the Air Force will move ahead this fall with preliminary industry-designed studies of a ground-launched, direct ascent, anti-satellite system armed with non-nuclear explosives. Could we find out the current status of the satellite interceptor program, as it now stands? What do you plan for the next fiscal year?

ANSWER: The current status of our satellite interceptor efforts involve only the developing of the key technologies required for a non-nuclear anti-satellite interceptor. These are high risk technologies which have yet to be developed. General Dynamics and Vought Corporation have been under contract to the Air Force for some time doing the study efforts. There are no plans, nor will the Air Force release proposal requests this fall, for the development of a ground launched, direct ascent, conventional anti-satellite weapon armed with non-nuclear explosives. Plans for the next fiscal year involve selection of one of the two contractors to continue on with the technology development of their particular, anti-satellite concept.

Page determined to be Unclassified  
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS  
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date: JUN 11 2015

SOURCE OF ANSWER John B. Walsh 6 JUL 1977 DD (SIC) RELEASE / Col of [unclear] [unclear] x79386  
COORDINATION [unclear]  
COMPLETED BY Jane Smith TIME INQUIRER NOTIFIED 1100 6 July 1977

Page determined to be Unclassified

Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS

IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5

Date: JUN 11 2015

(Current as of June 29, 1977)

31 May 1977

SUBJECT: Anti-satellite Warfare

QUESTION: There are press reports that the Soviets have recently conducted an anti-satellite test. What are we doing to meet this potential threat and what are we doing to develop a similar capability? Is it true that a U.S. system for knocking out enemy satellites is now in the research stage, with the first flight test some three years away?

ANSWER: We are conducting a broad-based program to provide a technology base for assisting our satellite designers in enhancing the survivability of our satellites against a broad spectrum of threats. These threats include laser radiation, jamming and electro-magnetic pulse from nuclear bursts as well as the interceptor type threat which the Soviets have tested. We are also developing the key technologies for a non-nuclear anti-satellite interceptor that could provide the option for a U.S. operational anti-satellite capability by the mid 1980's.

The U.S. is not developing an anti-satellite system at this time and therefore has no plans to flight test such a weapon in 3 years. We are, however, examining the feasibility of various technologies required for a non-nuclear anti-satellite interceptor. In order to provide a hedge against possible use of the Soviet anti-satellite interceptor against our space assets, we have chosen to develop the critical technology required for an anti-satellite system and enhance our space assets' survivability against such attacks.

Page determined to be Unclassified  
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS  
JAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date: JUN 11 2015

BACKGROUND: A classified copy of the FY 78 Posture Statement dealing with our anti-satellite efforts is attached.

SOURCE: Mr. John B. Walsh *J. B. Walsh* 31 MAY 1977  
Deputy Director  
Strategic and Space Systems  
ODDR&E

COORDINATION: *William J. Perry* 27 MAY 1977  
William J. Perry

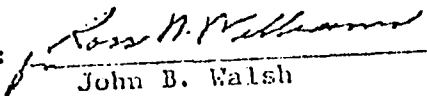
31 May 1977

QUESTION: Is it true that DoD is working on an anti-satellite interceptor that it will flight test within three years?

ANSWER: The U.S. is not developing an anti-satellite system and therefore has no plans to flight test such a weapon in 3 years. We are, however, working on the high risk technology required for a non-nuclear anti-satellite (ASAT) interceptor if we should find it necessary to develop one. As previously pointed out, the Soviets have demonstrated a non-nuclear anti-satellite capability. Existing treaties permit the development and deployment of such systems. In order to provide a hedge against possible use of the Soviet ASAT weapon against our space assets, we have chosen to develop the critical technology required for an ASAT system. This would allow us to be in a position by the mid 1980s to respond in kind should the need arise.

SOURCE: Mr.. John B. Walsh  
Deputy Director  
Strategic and Space Systems  
ODDR&E

COORDINATION:

  
John B. Walsh

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 11 2015

~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: RDS

7 JUL 1977

SUBJECT: Potential Security Violation

TO: SAF/OI

1. The attached press release was delivered by a representative of your office at COB on 6 July 1977. The release contains information which is ~~SECRET~~, and your representative was so informed.
2. Classification guidance on this subject is provided in the Advanced Space Defense Program Security Classification Guide. Information shown in brackets on the proposed answer to the query should be classified ~~SECRET~~ according to this guide.
3. Recommend immediate withdrawal of the release to avoid a security violation.

1 Atch  
DOD Press Release (S), 1 cy

EDWIN A. COY, Maj Gen, USAF  
Director of Space  
DCS/Research and Development

~~UPON REMOVAL OF BACKGROUND MATERIAL:  
THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE HANDLED AS  
Unclassified~~

~~SECRET~~

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DIRECTORATE FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION  
PRESS DIVISION

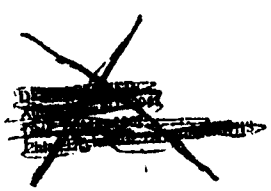
77 4591 B

DATE 5 July 1977 TIME . 1100 OSD REP Jane Smith  
QUERY FROM DoD News Briefing, Tuesday, July 5, 1977, 11:30 a.m.

QUERY: Aviation Week has a strong story today saying the Air Force will move ahead this fall with preliminary industry-designed studies of a ground-launched, direct ascent, anti-satellite system armed with non-nuclear explosives. Could we find out the current status of the satellite interceptor program, as it now stands? What do you plan for the next fiscal year?

ANSWER: The current status of our satellite [interceptor] efforts involve only the developing of the key technologies required for a non-nuclear [anti-satellite interceptor]. These are high risk technologies which have yet to be developed. General Dynamics and Vought Corporation have been under contract to the Air Force for some time doing the study efforts. There are no plans, nor will the Air Force release proposal requests this fall, for the development of a ground launched, [direct ascent, conventional anti-satellite weapon armed with non-nuclear explosives]. Plans for the next fiscal year involve selection of one of the two contractors to continue on with the technology development of their particular, [anti-satellite] concept.

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Date: JUN 11 2015



~~Classified by: ASDP/SCG/NOV  
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL  
DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE  
ON EXEMPTION DATE 11/03/82  
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 2  
DECLASSIFY ON 31 Dec 2005~~

~~SECRET~~