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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

14 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PLUMMER

SUBJECT: SAMSO Survivability Briefing

At 1400 this afternoon, AF/RDS will present a SAMSO briefing on Air Force Space Mission Survivability which has been presented to the Air Staff Board and is being sponsored to the Air Force Council with some changes recommended by General Greenleaf.

When this briefing was presented to the Air Staff Board, I fulfilled a personal commitment made by General Kulpa to General Greenleaf and presented an NRO overview, ostensibly for information only, with a two-chart summary of our vulnerability efforts. The 30 minutes I had planned actually lasted over an hour and a half and the ensuing discussions concerned:

[REDACTED]

Your "offer" to reduce the NRP by some [REDACTED] (to which I took strong exception).

There was no expressed interest in our vulnerability efforts, and the entire discussion was out of context of the announced purpose.

AF/RDS is preparing the SAMSO briefing for the Air Force Council and, through the Space Panel, General Greenleaf has asked that General Stelling and I again precede it with an informational overview space briefing. I would welcome your

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guidance that an NRO overview is not appropriate to that body sitting in a decision role and that we should rather present the NRO briefing to any individual members of the Council who may request it.

I am very concerned that the same dialogue may occur, or be prompted, and that the Council might be disposed to provide guidance, direction, or decision that would be inappropriate in terms of Air Force support to the NRO or our own vulnerability efforts. Once given, such guidance or direction could be difficult to handle gracefully.

Finally, one of the SAMSO briefing charts [redacted] ability has been modified, at General Greenleaf's direction, to include our programs, but because of [redacted] I feel that it may raise more questions than it will answer.

[redacted]

HAROLD P. WHEELER,
Colonel, USAF
Director

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