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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

29613

4 January 1985

National Intelligence Council

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM: Herbert E. Mayer, Vice Chairman
National Intelligence Council
SUBJECT: Thatcher and SDI

1. David Hart met last evening with the Prime Minister and he reports the following:

-- During her meeting with the President, he offered to have someone brief her on SDI; she accepted. It is uncertain to Hart whether a specific individual was named. She wants the briefing.

-- Hart for some time has been pressing her to get on board SDI, and to join with the US in its development. Last evening, he says, she was for the first time willing to seriously consider the idea. Presumably the President had an impact on her. She said she will need something in return for a decision to come on board--along the lines of dual control. This is obviously a very vague concept, since the hardware doesn't exist. She realizes this, and she wants to talk with the US officials who can come to her with a workable proposal. Hart says the US will need to work out something to offer her. He says she is quite receptive.

2. Hart urged her to meet with Keyworth and myself during our visit to London January 14-15. She would like this, but only if she is certain it does not conflict with the President's briefing offer. If the President had something else in mind, she doesn't want to inadvertently undercut that.

3. Keyworth left the US on vacation prior to the summit, and returns on Sunday. I don't know whether word was passed to him to brief the PM, but he and I will meet on Monday.

~~SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY~~

4. Hart thinks the best approach would be for Keyworth and me to chat with the PM about SDI, and how the Soviets and ourselves see it. This would be followed at a later date by another session with appropriate US officials to work out a role in SDI for Great Britain. Fred Ikle comes to mind, and indeed he is in contact with Hart.

5. What's needed are some decisions by the US:

-- Did the President name a particular individual to brief Thatcher.

-- Should Keyworth and I talk with her; if so, she will need word from the White House that this is okay.

-- What sort of arrangement can be made to bring Great Britain "on board" SDI. Decisions can be deferred, but the US should start thinking.

6. Hart does not want his role in this to be known to anyone except me, you, Keyworth, and Ikle.


Herbert E. Meyer

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