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FOR: Ms. Honi Smith, Director, Special Programs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence

FROM: (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6) Defense Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: Review of Special Access Program Request

REF: Senator Harry Reid letter to the Honorable William Lynn III, Deputy Secretary of Defense, dated 24 June 2009

(U//FOUO) This information memo is in response to your request for the (b)(3):10 USC 424 to evaluate Senator Harry Reid's desire to establish a restricted special access program (SAP) for the Advanced Aerospace Threat and Identification Program (AAITP) as stated in the reference. In reviewing the deliverables to the (b)(3):10 USC 424 from the contractor thus far, and in looking ahead to the planned production in FY10, we can not find adequate justification to establish a restricted SAP.

(U//FOUO) All of the AAITP documents delivered to (b)(3):10 USC 424 during the first year (FY09) were unclassified, as the contractor had yet to establish a secure facility and the employees were going through the vetting process for their clearances. For FY10, the majority of the research products will remain at the unclassified level, but at least four, and perhaps as many as six, of the original technical reports will be expanded to include classified data. Furthermore, the emphasis of the next round of technical reports will be focused more on foreign research in a particular technology area. While this follow-on work is at the earliest stages, we believe that the classification of the reports will be at the Secret level. Even if they were to include Top Secret Sensitive Compartmented Information, this would not be sufficient grounds to warrant the establishment of a restricted SAP.

(U//FOUO) In the second paragraph of the reference, Senator Reid cites "the identification of several highly sensitive, unconventional aerospace-related findings" that will "require extraordinary protection." While the majority of the unclassified reports do indeed discuss unconventional aerospace technologies, we are unaware as to which, if any, are so sensitive that they require the extra protection provided by a restricted SAP. We can only assume that these statements are in keeping with the security and counter-intelligence concerns that are the main focus of the senator's letter.

(U//FOUO) Per the request from Ms. Sanders on the OUSD(I) Special Programs staff during the follow up meeting on 26 October, draft copies of the first year's technical reports that are being prepared for publication have been sent to her by (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6)

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(b)(3):10 USC 424 contract officer for the AAITP. All are highly technical in nature and were produced by leading experts in their field, but as described earlier are at the Unclassified//For Official Use Only level. Should you have any questions on the content of these reports, please feel free to contact (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6) (b)(3):10 USC 424 and he'll arrange to have (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(6) go over the report(s) with your staff.

Prepared by DIA/ (b)(3):10 USC 424