

INFORMATION

August 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Lord Chalfont Article on
 Strategic Nuclear Balance

I thought you might be interested in reading this. Lord Chalfont has written well an argument which is gaining some currency. He asserts that the Soviet Union has achieved a position of strategic nuclear superiority over the United States.

Two observations:

- His timeframe is fuzzy...leaves the reader with an impression that the Soviets have now some capabilities (like Civil Defense) which won't be true until 1979-80.

- Our assessment is that the Soviets have moved from a position of clear inferiority to one of rough equivalence today ... that this is part of a set of adverse trends which must be arrested...and we are doing so.

