

(b)(3)

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Acting Chairman  
Select Committee on Intelligence  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OCT 28 2020

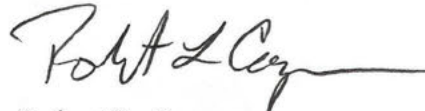
The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
Vice Chairman  
Select Committee on Intelligence  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Acting Chairman Rubio and Vice Chairman Warner:

(U) The enclosed classified report and unclassified summary respond to section 5503 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020; DIVISION E— Intelligence Authorizations for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 (P.L. 116-92).

(U) Originals of this letter are being sent to the appropriate congressional committees, as well as House and Senate leadership. If you have any questions, you may contact Legislative Affairs at (703) 275-2474.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Cooper  
Acting Assistant Director for  
Legislative Affairs

Enclosures:

1. (U) ODNI Summary [Un sourced], Summary of Assessment of Intentions of Political Leadership of the Russian Federation, 17 July 2020 (U)
2. (U) ODNI Report [Un sourced], Assessment of Intentions of Political Leadership of the Russian Federation, 17 July 2020 (b)(3)

Classified By: (b)(3), (b)(6)  
Derived From: ODNI CG  
Declassify On: 20451231

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Adam B. Schiff  
Chairman  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

OCT 28 2020

The Honorable Devin Nunes  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Schiff and Ranking Member Nunes:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

OCT 28 2020

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Visclosky and Ranking Member Calvert:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OCT 28 2020

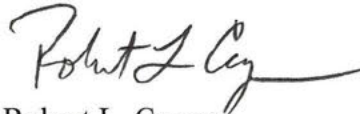
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Shelby and Ranking Member Durbin:

(U) The enclosed classified report and unclassified summary respond to section 5503 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020; DIVISION E— Intelligence Authorizations for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 (P.L. 116-92).

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable James E. Risch  
Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OCT 28 2020

The Honorable Robert Menendez  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Risch and Ranking Member Menendez:

(U) The enclosed classified report and unclassified summary respond to section 5503 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020; DIVISION E— Intelligence Authorizations for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 (P.L. 116-92).

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Eliot L. Engel  
Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

OCT 28 2020

The Honorable Michael T. McCaul  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Engel and Ranking Member McCaul:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OCT 28 2020

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Armed Services  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Inhofe and Ranking Member Reed:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

OCT 28 2020

The Honorable Mac Thornberry  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Armed Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Thornberry:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OCT 28 2020

Leader McConnell:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

OCT 28 2020

Leader Schumer:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

OCT 28 2020

Speaker Pelosi:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

OCT 28 2020

Leader McCarthy:

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

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(U) Summary of Assessment of Intentions  
of Political Leadership of the Russian Federation

17 July 2020

National Intelligence Council

UNCLASSIFIED

Approved for release by ODNI on 11-04-2021, FOIA Case # DF-2021-00079

## **UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY**

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This product was drafted by ODNI's National Intelligence Council, National Intelligence Officer for Russia and Eurasia.

**We assess that Russia's leaders do not currently intend to launch military operations against members of NATO. Moscow would not back away from conflict with the Alliance, however, if it determined that activity by NATO members posed an immediate threat to critical Russian interests.** Russian leaders want to avoid kinetic war with the U.S. and NATO, and are cognizant of the dangers to Russia from such a conflict.

**We assess that Moscow is increasingly concerned about U.S. military activity, especially in Europe, and that this increases the potential for unintended Russian escalation.**

- Moscow is particularly concerned about a possible U.S. military base in Poland, reestablishment of the U.S. Navy Second Fleet, the increased U.S. military budget, expanding missile defenses, and near-permanent U.S. rotations and forces in Europe.
- We assess that Russia intervenes abroad primarily to prevent a perceived geopolitical loss rather than to make new geopolitical gains, and intervenes where it sees the costs and risks as manageable.

**We assess Moscow will continue to try to divide both NATO and the EU, weaken public support for those institutions, obstruct their enlargement, and boost Russia-friendly political figures and groups.** Russia almost certainly will try to capitalize on what it sees as mounting tensions between Washington and Europe.