

May 7, 2014

The Honorable Jon T. Rymer
U.S. Department of Defense
Office of Inspector General
4800 Mark Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22350-1500

Dear Inspector General Rymer:

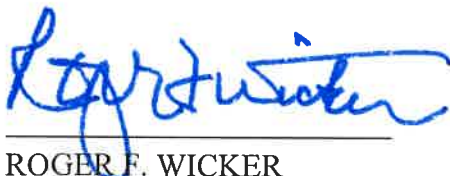
We request the Department of Defense Inspector General's Office undertake an examination of the matters surrounding the Defense Department's awareness of any and all compliance concerns regarding the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty and the Russian Federation during the process of the negotiation and ratification of the New START treaty.

Specifically, we are concerned that the Defense Department was either not aware of such compliance concerns or chose not to inform the Senate (and the House of Representatives) of these compliance concerns, nor to include them in the annual compliance report ("Adherence to and Compliance with Arms Control, Nonproliferation, and Disarmament Agreements and Commitments" - required per 22 U.S.C. 2593a) for the period between 2005-2008 that was submitted in 2010. We note that the Defense Department participates in the preparation of this annual report per that Act.

We would like you to report back to us - including with an interim briefing not later than September 1, 2014 - as to whether the Defense Department was aware of compliance concerns regarding the INF treaty during the preparation and the process leading to the submission of the aforementioned report or during the process, culminating on December 22, 2010, of the U.S. Senate's advice and consent to ratify the New START treaty, or the preparation of the Nuclear Posture Review of 2010.

We appreciate your execution of our request.

Sincerely,



ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator



KELLY AYOTTE
United States Senator