

The number of flights would have to be adequate to enhance confidence, contribute to verification, and to give credence to the title "Open Skies".

(IV) Infrastructure Support: To allow for overflights of North America and the Soviet Far East, certain airfields within these areas would be designated as starting points for overflights. "Open Skies" aircraft would stage to these airfields via existing commercial air carrier routes. Staging flights to these airfields would not count against quotas. Airfields would be selected on the basis that fuel and necessary ground support would be available.

After giving an agreed notice of arrival, the reconnaissance aircraft would land at a predesignated point of entry in the host country. Aircrew would give the host country a detailed flight plan, giving its intended flight route from point of entry to point of exit. The aircraft might have to wait for an agreed period, before taking off. During this time the host country would be able to make available needed servicing for the aircraft (such as refuelling) and undertake agreed external and internal inspections to check for unauthorized sensors.

(V) Advance Notice: Flight plans should be filed in accordance with International Flight Planning Procedures (ICAO) -- this includes altitudes, routings, speeds, turning points and requires sufficient time to coordinate traffic flow, to allow input into air traffic services data processing systems. Aircraft would be flown in accordance with Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) which regulate deviations and ensure air safety.

(VI) Operations: Once the aircraft had taken off for its surveillance flight, the observing party could fly anywhere it wished to go in the airspace of the country being observed, in accordance with the flight plan and limited only by reasonable flight safety restrictions such as those now used regardless of nationality. The aircraft could fly at any altitude, as notified in the flight plan and subject to standard safety restrictions. The surveillance mission might last up to a prescribed time, with the host country required to make available an agreed number of refuellings, if requested, at one of a number of predesignated locations.

(VII) Host Country Observers

Host country observers are desirable to assist in developing the in-country flight plan and ensuring that the flight is conducted in accordance with the flight plan.

Comparison of Airborne and Space-Based Remote Sensing

Inevitably, there will be a question as to why airborne surveillance as suggested in the Open Skies proposal is relevant in the 1990s, given the space-based capability which now exists. One major consideration is that in the past reconnaissance was