Proposal Abstract J126(A78)

1. **Arms Control Problem:**
   Nuclear weapons - reentry vehicles
                    - mobile ballistic missiles
                    - cruise missiles

2. **Verification Type:**
   Remote sensors - aerial

3. **Source:**
   Perry, R. "Verifying SALT in the 1980's". In The Future of Arms
   Control: Part I - Beyond SALT II, Adelphi Papers #141, pp. 15-24.
   Edited by C. Bertram. London: International Institute of Strategic
   Studies, 1978.

4. **Summary:**
       The author contends that aerial verification is particularly
   promising though it has received little attention since the early
   1960's. In the modern world of MIRV, land mobile ICBMs, cruise
   missiles and other strategic gadgetry, the approach has a number of
   attractions:
   (1) It lacks some of the more intrusive aspects of on-site inspection
       since it can be conducted without exposing the military hardware
       of the host country to the close scrutiny of an inspector;
   (2) It promises a prompt and direct view of a suspect activity;
   (3) Concealment of any major weapons activity would be difficult
       because the reconnaissance aircraft need follow no set path or
       schedule and they are not necessarily inhibited from performing
       their assignment by night or bad weather; and
   (4) It is comparatively cheap, which creates the possibility that
       many nations could participate without having to rely on the good
       will of one of the superpowers.
       As the author envisages it, the reconnaissance aircraft would be
   permitted to fly freely over the territory of the inspected nation.
   The aircraft would have to be incapable of performing offensive
   missions, of carrying strategic weapons or of detracting from the
   defensive potential of the nation being reconnoitered. This could be
   accomplished by ensuring that only "pure" reconnaissance aircraft
   could be used or by permitting on-the-ground inspection of each
   aircraft at any time.