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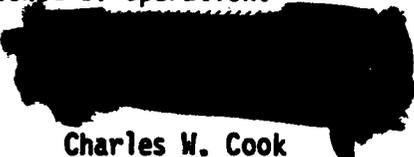
7. Specifies transition of control and direction of NRP in time of war. (Paragraph 19)

8. Establishes control and direction of NRO by both CFI and DCI. (Paragraphs 3 and 4)

9. While quite specific in the final responsibilities of the DCI and CIA, there is no mention of the SECDEF responsibilities to direct, manage, and fund the NRP. (Per EO 11905)

10. In various places, changes could be read as tending to erode the authority of the DNRO over the program offices. (Paragraphs 5 and 6).

I plan to attend the meeting from a working session standpoint, and will attempt to retain strong DNRO management over the program and the maintenance of the streamlined method of operation.


Charles W. Cook
Acting Director

Attachment - 1
Draft of NRP Charter

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12 March 1976

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

DIRECTIVE NO.

NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM CHARTER

A. INTRODUCTION

1. There is hereby created a National Reconnaissance Program (NRP) for the collection of foreign intelligence by satellites or such other overhead means as may be assigned. The NRP shall combine activities of the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency to assure that potentialities of U.S. technology and all operational resources and facilities are aggressively and imaginatively exploited to develop and operate systems for the collection of foreign intelligence which are fully responsive to the Government's foreign intelligence needs and objectives. As a function of national importance, the NRP is assigned the highest priority for DoD and industrial support.

2. The Program will be managed by a National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), a special office within the Department of Defense for the collection of specialized intelligence information through reconnaissance programs. This charter sets forth the responsibilities of the NRO, which will be conducted in accordance with the legal requirements of Executive Order 11905, "United States Foreign Intelligence Activities," 18 February 1976, and its implementing directives.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

3. The Committee on Foreign Intelligence (CFI) and the Director of Central Intelligence shall exercise such authority over the NRP as is specified provided by Executive Order 11905 and by National Security Council Directives.

This charter supersedes the "Agreement for Reorganization of the National Reconnaissance Program," signed by the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence, dated 11 August 1965.

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4. The Secretary of Defense shall appoint a senior Department of Defense statutory official to be the Director of the NRO (DNRO), with the concurrence of the Director of Central Intelligence. The Deputy DNRO shall be appointed by the Director of Central Intelligence with the concurrence of the DNRO. The Secretary of Defense shall provide or arrange with the CFI and the Director of Central Intelligence for provision of the necessary support to execute the program.

5. The DNRO shall establish a joint staff including representation from all organizations involved in the NRP, ~~to support himself and the CFI~~ the Program. Provision shall be made for establishment and operation of program offices for the implementation of the NRP in appropriate agencies of the Department of Defense, the military services and the Central Intelligence Agency. The DNRO shall have the authority to assign program management responsibilities to the various departments and agencies of the Government, according to their capabilities, and as approved by the CFI.

6. The DNRO shall direct and manage the NRP. Planning and programming for satellite systems, or other designated overhead collectors, as approved by the CFI for the collection of national intelligence information are the sole responsibility of the DNRO. He shall be is responsible for direction of the activities conducted by the program offices in research, development, procurement, operation and control of satellite or other designated overhead collectors of foreign intelligence information and has the authority to assign responsibilities to the various departments and agencies of the Government according to their capabilities. The NRO will not produce finished intelligence.

7. The responsibility of the DNRO is to satisfy, through conduct of the NRP, the foreign intelligence collection requirements and priorities established by the CFI Director of Central Intelligence. The DNRO shall submit each request to conduct a foreign intelligence collection mission to the Intelligence Operations Board Operations Advisory Group for approval.

8. The DNRO shall provide the Intelligence Community Staff with such information and data as it requires in providing staff support to the CFI. The Intelligence Community Staff (ICS) will be furnished This will include system level performance and cost data required by the ICS to perform value-assessments as directed by the CFI.

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9. ~~No-ether-department-or-agency~~ Only those program offices participating in the NRP shall engage in reconnaissance intelligence collection using satellites or conduct studies or advanced technologies technology development related thereto.

10. The DNRO shall establish direct lines of control and communication to all elements of the NRO and supporting organizations for development, operations and logistics activities. The NRO shall not be subject to DoD or CIA procurement or administrative instructions or directives except as their application may be beneficial to the management of the NRP, as determined by the NRO.

11. The DNRO shall establish a fiscal control and accounting procedure to ensure that all funds expended in support of the NRP are fully accounted for and appropriately utilized by the program offices concerned.

12. The DoD Inspector General and General Counsel will be responsible for oversight of the NRO, in compliance with Sections 5 and 6 of the Executive Order 11905.

13. Contract audit functions will be performed by the Defense Contract Audit Agency, in accordance with covert security procedures.

14. The DNRO shall prepare the budget and program recommendations for the NRP and submit it to under procedures established by the CFI for approval and inclusion in the overall intelligence budget. The DNRO shall defend the NRP through briefings to the Congress or elsewhere in support of under procedures approved by the CFI.

15. The DNRO shall have reprogramming authority within the approved NRP, subject to rules governing and reprogramming of funds adopted by the CFI.

16. The DNRO is designated as the Head of a Procuring Agency, and may redelegate to the extent of his legal authority. He shall also have the authority to approve the lease or procurement of automated data processing equipment integral to NRP systems.

17. The DNRO shall establish the manning requirements for the NRO and request manpower support from the appropriate agencies and departments.

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18. The NRP shall be considered a covert activity of the U.S. Government and will not, as a matter of policy, be publicly acknowledged without the approval of the DCI. The DNRO is responsible for recommending to the DCI the security measures necessary for the protection of the NRP and for implementation of security procedures.

19. In time of war involving U.S. forces, control and direction of the NRP, including requirements and target priorities, shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of Defense.

Director of Central
Intelligence

Deputy Secretary
of Defense

Deputy Assistant for
National Security Affairs.

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