

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



NO: 116.2

DATE: December 15, 1960

**SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
ORDER**

**SUBJECT:** Organization and Functions of the Air Force  
Satellite Photographic Processing Laboratory

1. There is hereby established the Air Force Satellite Photographic Processing Laboratory (AFSPPL) at Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts.
2. The Laboratory will be under the command of the Director of the SAMOS Project, 2400 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California. It will be attached to the Air Force Command and Control Development Division, Air Research and Development Command, L. G. Hanscom Field, Massachusetts, for administrative, logistic, and contractual support.
3. The mission of the AFSPPL will be to conduct the research and development necessary to provide the best possible equipment, techniques, and knowledge applicable to satellite photography, to insure that the processing and duplication of photography obtained from satellite vehicles is of the highest possible quality, and to process, duplicate, and distribute this photography to designated users.
4. Physical space and some resources and manning for the AFSPPL will be taken from the 8th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron. The 8th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron will

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remain as a separate unit, with the AFSPPL having priority over all resources. Actual transfer of spaces, manpower, and other resources will follow approval of a detailed plan to be submitted to the Secretary of the Air Force by the Director of the SAMOS Project.

*Dudley L. Sharp*

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