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HANDLE VIA

[REDACTED]

~~INTERNAL SECURITY~~

(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

26 August 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL KULPA

SUBJECT: Action on Dr. Martin's Memo of 19 August 1974

This is to note that following the discussion requested in Mr. Plummer's 20 August memo on the subject, SAF/SS was asked to prepare a letter of reply to Dr. Martin.

You assigned a suspense of 30 August to this follow-on action.

[REDACTED]

DONALD J. KUTYNA
Colonel, USAF
Executive Assistant

[Handwritten initials and a grid stamp]

2 Attachments

HANDLE VIA [REDACTED] EXEMPT FROM
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-
GORY 5B2 DECLASSIFY ON MMP DDT.

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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

20 August 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL KULPA

SUBJECT: John Martin's Memo of 19 August 1974

Reference the attached memo, I wonder if Jack Martin was briefed on our NRO Research and Development Advisory Council which provides some degree of consideration for "Who cares"? Or, more directly, I wonder if he knows that the programs are reviewed by the IRAC R&D Council which has as one of its principal objectives the assessment of the relevance and impact of the technology programs.

Even if these reviews answer the question, I do endorse the idea of very select small groups of scientists, such as represented by the SAB, to solve some of the larger problems. A major example would be our NIPS.

Let's discuss. ← *DONE - 23 AUG '74*

J. W. Plummer

J. W. Plummer

Attachment
Memo fr John Martin
dtd 19 Aug 74

cc: Dr.. Cook .

CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED] EXEMPT FROM
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-
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SUSP-23 AUG

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 20330



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

August 19, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PLUMMER

When I was in Los Angeles recently I visited SAFSP (we talked about my doing so) and was briefed on the technology program. I think it is true that (1) -6 is doing good work, and (2) the relevance and impact of the work could be better. By that I mean that I think the program would benefit if for each program element the question had to be answered: "Who cares?" If the "who" is not at or near the decision-making level with respect to intelligence substance or resources, then perhaps the money could be better spent. Another way to assist the matter of relevance and impact would be the utilization of an SAB panel or other advisory group. Such groups could bring to the program their insights gained elsewhere as well as (considering the necessary security) giving currency to SP ideas in other forums.

What I have said requires no great depth of insight: it is just the obvious way that I have seen the Agency with respect to its projects in your Program and elsewhere.

Jack M.
John Martin

Copy to
General Bradburn

RCVD-70 AUG