

[REDACTED]

**NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE**  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

[REDACTED]

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THE NRO STAFF

6 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DIRKS, CIA  
BRIGADIER GENERAL BRADBURN, SAFSP  
RADM GEIGER, [REDACTED]  
COLONEL BAILEY, [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Organizational and Functional Changes to the NRO Staff

[REDACTED] former Scientific Advisor to the NRO, was detailed to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Research and Development on 17 February 1974. [REDACTED] NRO office subsequently has been dissolved. [REDACTED] responsibilities have been assumed by the Office of the Deputy Director for Programs under Colonel Harold P. Wheeler.

A new staff element, the Office of the Deputy Director for Concepts and Applications, designated SAFSS-6, has been established effective 4 March 1974. A copy of its charter is attached. Colonel James R. Blankenship has been appointed to head this office. The office will be composed of representatives from each of the three services with the possible future addition of representatives of non-services agencies/organizations. It will function primarily in assisting all elements of the NRO in developing a better understanding of the needs for and the uses of the products. DOD tactical, as well as national reconnaissance requirements will be addressed. However, the office is not intended to be competitive with or duplicative of any other NRO element. Our hope is to establish a close working relationship between this new office and the NRP program offices and to engender the feeling that the office exists to assist the program offices whenever possible.

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Primary responsibility for NRO program matters still rests with the Office of the Deputy Director for Programs, [REDACTED] and for operational matters with the Deputy Director for Operations, SAFSS-4.

[REDACTED]

JOHN E. KULPA, JR.  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Director

1 Attachment  
Charter