

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

Cal [redacted] 23 Jan

For your info -  
note that [redacted]  
is going to draft  
and make for  
the AFSAPF  
effort with OD&E

[redacted]

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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE NRO STAFF

23 January 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Relocation of the AFSPPF R&D Effort

On 22 January 1975 I met with [redacted] (OD&E/DEG) and [redacted] (OD&E/ITD) to review the R&D move from AFSPPF to OD&E. The initial work and agreement has been accomplished in a message from Mr. Plummer to Maj Gen Bradburn and Mr. Les Dirks (Atch 1). Also an initial meeting was convened with the NRO/OD&E/AFSPPF in Nov (Atch 2). Later in November the [redacted] resulted in the [redacted] agreeing to support our effort by providing processing and QC/QA functions (Atch 3).

The basis for this meeting was to discuss the every day operation and in particular the direction from the CCB, the handling of funds and the transfer of people. The ITD division (Heurtley) falls under DEG (Malinowski) and Mr. Malinowski was not up to speed on the agreements and happenings which had transpired since October 1974.

I reiterated that basic direction is provided by the CCB, but that day-to-day operation is the responsibility of ITD. Also that funding would be provided by project and not given to CIA as a lump sum. Also that in our type of R&D and the relationship we have [redacted] versus other contractors and the speed with which we must solve problems does not lend itself to the normal RFP relationship. Of course security is also a large concern.

Mr. Malinowski was very receptive and was satisfied with all our prior planning and work. I agreed to draft the basic letter of agreement/understanding for staffing which will be signed by Maj Gen Bradburn, Mr. Dirks (Duckett) and Col Wheeler/Mr. Plummer.

[redacted]  
WESLEY D. OWENS  
Lt Colonel, USAF

Atch

1. [redacted]
2. MFR, 14 Nov 74
3. Memo for Col [redacted]  
29 Nov 74

✓  
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CLASSIFIED INFORMATION EXEMPT FROM  
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE  
GORY 252 DECLASSIFY ON IMP DET

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MDAINSM MEETING

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C. CHANNELS ONLY

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PP RIKOBA RUEINC  
DE RUMSAA 574 2981789  
ZNY XXXXX SSS ZNN  
P 251708Z

BT  
XXXX

*SWA 789-13*  
*AA 9700*

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PRIORITY

SECRET

FOR GEN BRADBURN FOR MR. DIRKS FROM  
MR. FLUMER

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF THE PHOTO R&D FUNCTION AT  
AFSPFF

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, WE HAVE PLACED THE PRODUCTION FUNCTION OF SPFF AT OMAHA AND THE EVALUATION FUNCTION AT NPIC. THE DISPOSITION OF THE PHOTO R&D FUNCTION HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY EACH OF YOUR ORGANIZATIONS, BY MY STAFF, AND BY THE CCB BOARD MEMBERS.
2. AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS REGARDING THE PHOTO R&D FUNCTION HAVE BEEN MADE:
  - A. THE EFFORT WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO WASHINGTON,

~~TOP SECRET~~

D. C. AND/OR LOS ANGELES (SAFSP) AT THE DISCRETION OF THE  
OCB. OCB WILL PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE IN

WASHINGTON, D. C. EFFORT. APPROXIMATELY 2500 SQUARE  
FEET OF SPACE WILL BE PROVIDED AS RESEARCH  
WORK SPACE. SAFSP WILL UTILIZE EXISTING OFFICE SPACE.

B. FOUR OR FIVE AIR FORCE OFFICER SPACES WILL BE  
PROVIDED AND WILL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY OCB PERSONNEL AS  
REQUIRED.

C. THE AF PEOPLE WILL WORK IN ONE BRANCH OF OCB/  
ITD, PRESENTLY IDENTIFIED AS THE PHOTO R&D BRANCH  
(EXCEPT AS NOTED IN F. BELOW, AND THE CHIEF OF THIS  
BRANCH WILL BE A MEMBER OF THE AIR FORCE.

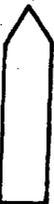
D. THE CHIEF AF MEMBER WILL COMPLETE THE OFFICER  
EFFECTIVENESS REPORTS (OERS) ON THE OTHER AF MEMBERS.  
THE NRO WILL COMPLETE THE CHIEF AF MEMBER'S OER BASED  
IN PART ON A LETTER OF EVALUATION PROVIDED BY THE CHIEF  
OF OCB/ITD.

E. THE NRO WILL FILL VACANCIES WITH OCB CONCURRENCE  
AND WILL HAVE UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO THE CHIEF AF MEMBER.

R&D PLACEMENT

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ATCH-1



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[REDACTED]  
CHANNELS UNIT

PAGE 29 ~~TOP SECRET~~

F. AN AIR FORCE OFFICER WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE FREE RADICAL FILM PROGRAM OFFICE FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINUITY FOR ALL NRP PROGRAMS AND WILL ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM.

G. CIA AND/OR AF CONTRACTING CHANNELS WILL BE USED AS APPROPRIATE.

H. FINALLY, THE PHOTO RED BRANCH EFFORT WILL TAKE ITS DIRECTION FROM THE CCB AND BE FUNDED BY [REDACTED]

I BELIEVE THESE BASIC GROUND RULES ARE NECESSARY AS A COMMON GROUND OF UNDERSTANDING AND THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE NRO WILL BE BEST SERVED UNDER THE ABOVE CONCEPTS. THE CCB WILL COORDINATE THIS MOVE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SPPF PHASE OUT. FOR THE FIRST TIME, BOTH NRO PHOTO AND EXPLOITATION RED WILL BE HOUSED UNDER ONE ROOF. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.

B2 IMPDET

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BT

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CHANNELS [REDACTED]

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FPP-A13

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

THE NRO STAFF

14 November 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: AFSPPF Photo R&D

An informal meeting was convened 13 Nov 74 at OD&E/ITD in the [REDACTED] In attendance were: [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED] OD&E/ITD
- Col Clark Davison, Cmdr, AFSPPF
- Lt Col L. C. Butt, Dir, R&D AFSPPF
- Lt Col W. D. Owens, SAF/SS

This initial meeting was basically a brain storming session to air potential and real problems which will require attention during the next several months prior to establishment of the final management/operations plan. Among the various items discussed were:

- Office space at OD&E/ITD
- Research space at [REDACTED]
- Working relationship at [REDACTED]
- Specialized equipment required to be transshipped from AFSPPF
- Time frame for movement
- Personnel chain of command

At this initial get-together it was concluded that no major obstacles are evident. Prior to detail planning, SAF/SS will meet with Charlie Roth, OD&E, to resolve [REDACTED] relationships and to determine the actual research work space along with power/planning. In addition, a meeting will be convened with Mr. Les Dirks and Mr. Don Haas, OD&E, to resolve management and contractual areas. Upon completion of these two meetings Lt Col Butt will prepare a movement plan along with a time table for major milestones. Later a memo of understanding will be formulated between OD&E and the NRO.

[REDACTED]  
WESLEY D. OWENS  
Lt Colonel, USAF

HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]  
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EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-  
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ATCH #2

Memo for Whelan

29 Nov 74

[REDACTED]

concurred with the message.

NATIONAL CRYPTOLOGIC SCHOOL COURSE

Mr. Veiel attended the Senior Level National Cryptologic School course (3 days) to determine if it is worthwhile for NRO Staff members. The course provides an overview of the SIGINT Community and would be valuable for all Staff members. We will take steps to get quotas for attendance at future sessions. The course is given three times a year.

AFSPPF R&D RELOCATION

On 21 Nov 1974, L/C Alser and L/C Owens met with the [REDACTED] (Charlie Roth) and the various [REDACTED] managers and [REDACTED]. Various aspects of the relocation of the photo R&D were discussed. Our main purpose was to have [REDACTED] agree to support our R&D effort with processing and QC functions, to include not only the equipment, but the manpower. [REDACTED] agreed to this tasking on a non-interference basis.

[REDACTED]

Lt Colonel, USAF  
Executive

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ATTN# 3

[REDACTED]