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WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF

July 11, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. McLUCAS

SUBJECT: Disclosure of U. S. Satellite Reconnaissance Activities

Activities in anticipation of Strategic Arms Limitations Talks have progressed to a point where preliminary consultations have begun with NATO. At Tab A is a memorandum from Gerard Smith (ACDA) to Bruce Clarke (CIA) requesting the CIA to "take the lead in an urgent examination of what we can say to NATO about the capabilities and limits of our national means of monitoring."

We have been advised that the proposed briefing will be essentially an update of "disclosures" (discreet presentation of selected information concerning the U. S. space reconnaissance program) to selected NATO heads of state by Mr. McCone in 1964. We understand further that Mr. Helms will be asked to present the briefings to the Allies. If not presented personally, he will certainly review and approve the composition of the briefing. Any such briefings and discussion with the NATO nations will undoubtedly involve U. S. satellite reconnaissance activities.

It is the national policy that any such disclosures must include the clearance of the National Reconnaissance Office.

We suggest, therefore, that you ask Mr. Helms for the opportunity to review the disclosure proposal prior to its being submitted to the NSC for action.

LEW ALLEN, JR.
Colonel, USAFHANDLE VIA
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July 2, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR BRUCE C. CLARK, JR.
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Subject: Verification

We spoke in our Steering Group Meeting this morning of the interest of our NATO allies in verification capabilities for SALT. I see that this interest is reflected in NATO 3069 reporting on yesterday's experts' meeting.

I understand that you will take the lead in an urgent examination of what we can say to NATO about the capabilities and limits of our national means of monitoring. If possible, we would like to be able to offer the Council an updating of the 1964 briefing on our capabilities, perhaps at the time of the intensive session on the U. S. alternatives now scheduled for July 16-17.

Thomas Hughes has been asked to designate a representative of his office to work with you on behalf of State and ACDA on this problem. I am also sending copies of this memorandum to Mr. Ware and General Allison so that they can arrange for Defense Department participation.

signed

Gerard C. Smith

CC: State - Mr. Hughes
State - Mr. Farley
OSD/ISA - Mr. Ware
JCS - General Allison
White House - Mr. Sonnenfeldt

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