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~~1ST~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

February 4, 1969

Dear Don:

This is in response to your letter of January 23, 1969. It is encouraging to see the progress you are making in defining the needs of civil agencies for satellite photography. I certainly concur in the participation of the Naval Oceanographic Office personnel on your Marine Sciences Working Group.

Sincerely,

Alexander H. Flax

Alexander H. Flax
Director

Dr. Donald H. Steininger
Chairman, ARGO Steering Committee
Executive Office of the President

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

January 29, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: Naval Oceanographic Office Participation in an ARGO
SubcommitteeProblem:

To determine the desirability of Naval Oceanographic Office participation in an ARGO Subcommittee.

Background:

Don Steininger has a group working on Phase IV of the ARGO plan. This is the phase in which ARGO moves from "Look what is available to us" to "What do we really need?"

Present Status:

Don has written a letter to you (see Tab A) requesting your concurrence in having representatives of the Naval Oceanographic Office advise Phase IV ARGO on the applicability of satellite photography to the marine sciences. Specifically, he would like to have and his people give advice and support to our working group. "

Discussion:

The immediate question which comes to mind is, "Why is Don asking DNRO approval of this kind of support?" It turns out that the Navy -- and Don -- have felt that the restrictions imposed on service representatives in the earth-sensing area are substantially more severe than is actually the case. I have explained to Don that the

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restrictions to supporting other organizations are directed specifically toward NASA. In addition, even if the restrictions were applied to ARGO (and they are not), your letter of May 15 to Dr. Seamans (Tab B) is very liberal and specifically approves the investigation of "how imagery derived from overhead sensors can be used to determine information of scientific interest about the oceans and waters of the world..."

Don still feels he wants and needs your coordination.

Recommendation:

That you sign the attached letter to Don, concurring in Navy participation in ARGO IV.

Paul E. Worthman Jr.
PAUL E. WORTHMAN
Colonel, USAF

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OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
WASHINGTON

TCS No. 36, 961/69

January 23, 1969

This document consists of 1 pages
No. 1 of 2 Copies, Series A

Dear Dr. Flax:

As you know, the purpose of the "ARGO Steering Committee" is to help the civilian agencies identify ways in which they might use products from the classified satellites and to make those interests known to COMIREX. Some of the possibilities were suggested in last year's ARGO report and these we are trying to define more fully. However, the ARGO members feel that the ARGO report did not do justice to possibilities related to Marine Sciences and the Committee is proposing to have a subgroup investigate this area more fully. The working group would be chaired by [redacted] of the Marine Sciences Council and be composed of the people on the attached list, all of whom have T/KH clearances. We would like to take advantage of the experience and competence of the Naval Oceanographic Office by having [redacted] and his people give advice and technical support to our working group. I have received preliminary agreement to this arrangement from your staff and the Naval Oceanographic Office and if you find it acceptable, the working group will plan its first meeting for January 31.

I have attached a description of the Working Group's scope of work.

Sincerely,

Donald H. Steininger
Chairman, ARGO Steering Committee

Enclosures

a/s (TCS No. 36, 991/68, Cy 2, Ser. D)

Dr. Alexander H. Flax
Assistant Secretary for Research & Development
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D. C. 20330~~TOP SECRET~~HANDLE VIA
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ARGO WORKING GROUP ON MARINE SCIENCES

Chairman
National Council on Marine Resources
& Engineering Development

U. S. Geological Survey

National Council on Marine Resources
& Engineering Development

James S. Jordan
Department of Transportation

J. Robert Porter, Jr.
National Aeronautics & Space Administration

Defense Intelligence Agency

U. S. Coast Guard

Coast & Geodetic Survey

U. S. Naval Oceanographic Office

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1/23/69

TCS No. 36, 991/68

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No. 2 of 3 Copies, Series DARGO Working Group on Marine Sciences

The Working Group is requested to identify by April 15, 1969, the current and future opportunities for using the classified satellite program for meeting specific civilian agency requirements in the marine sciences (e. g., ice observation; coastal delineation, charting, and mapping; harbor and port surveys; oceanography) and to prepare recommendations concerning:

- a. Specific agency requirements that can most effectively be met by the classified satellite program.
- b. Agency and interagency arrangements for developing and submitting requests for specific satellite missions.
- c. Processing and distributing results of satellite observations to end users.


In accomplishing the foregoing, the Working Group should:

- a. Evaluate and supplement the marine sciences sections of the ARGO report, taking into account the comments prepared by the Naval Oceanographic Office.
- b. Identify those requirements that can most effectively be met by use of the classified satellite program, including consideration of possibilities of sanitization and declassification of selected data.
- c. Describe agency plans for clearing personnel and developing facilities to process and distribute results of classified satellite observations to end users.

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✓RAR-B-22

Dr. Flax/af/76990/15 May 67

May 15, 1967 

Dear Bob:

The attached terms of reference for Navy support of NASA in Oceanography resulted from discussions between Dr. Steininger of Dr. Hornig's office and representatives of NASA and the Navy.

The terms of reference have been reviewed by the appropriate authorities in DOD including Dr. Foster and Dr. Frosch. We have made only minor changes in the wording of the original draft, and consider that the attached document meets the requirements of DOD policy.

If these terms of reference are acceptable to NASA, they should provide a solid basis on which NASA and the Navy can proceed with mutually agreed programs in the field of Oceanography.

Sincerely,

Signed

Alexander M. Flax
Assistant Secretary
Research and Development

Attachment (C)
"Terms of Reference for
Navy Support of NASA."

cc: Dr. Hornig
Dr. Foster
Dr. Frosch

cc: SAFRD CHRON
SAFRD DEPUTY
SAFAAE

Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr.
Deputy Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, D.C.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~TERMS OF REFERENCEFOR NAVY SUPPORT OF NASAScope of Navy Oceanographic Office Charter in Support of NASA

To investigate how imagery derived from overhead sensors can be used to determine information of scientific interest about the oceans and waters of the world, including the definition of spectral regions of particular usefulness and the techniques for interpretation in these regions.

In pursuance of this objective, the Office

1. May conduct in house or contractual studies and experiments relating to the interpretation of the imagery derived from overhead devices but not to sensor design, the transmissivity of the atmosphere, nor the comparison of satellites vs. aircraft as a mode of image collection;
2. May conduct or participate in aircraft experiments in support of its investigations;
3. May assess the value of experiments to be performed in satellites in support of its investigations and may participate in the evaluation of the product of those experiments;
4. May not participate in the development of the spacecraft components nor in the actual operation of spacecraft experiments.

Statements in Press Releases or Public Documents

The Navy will limit its statements to discussions of non-military usefulness of the imagery itself and will not explicitly or by implication relate this usefulness to collection by satellite-borne (as opposed to aircraft-borne) sensors.

The NASA will limit its discussions of the Navy's activities in a similar way.

Neither NASA nor the Navy will, under any circumstances, ascribe military usefulness to aircraft or satellite derived imagery.

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