

## TSI NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

19 January 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. MCLUCAS

SUBJECT: Project COLT

REFERENCES:

a. 7 Oct 1970 Memo, same subject (TAB A) b. 3 Nov 1970 Msg, WHIG 0992 (TAB B) c. 10 Dec 1970 Msg, CHARGE 5614 (TAB C)

BACKGROUND

Project COLT is a proposal by Dr. Meinel of the University of Arizona

The construction would utilize six (6) surplus 72" DORIAN blanks, and result in an In accordance with your approval of our recommendation (TAB A), we have instructed SP-6 to investigate a study of feasibility and performance of the concept, (TAB B). A Statement of Work has been prepared by Dr. Meinel and SP-6 (TAB C) and reviewed by the Staff. work statement details the proposed efforts in the design and performance of the optical system and detectors.

#### DISCUSSION

To determine what overlap there might be between this project and somewhat similar work being done under we discussed the project with

He pointed out that there is effectively no overlap, and that
certain aspects of Project COLT complement the work being done for him; specifically, the use of Project COLT as a

contracts.

We feel that Project COLT offers these advantages:

b. Utilization of salvaged DORIAN blanks permits construction of a large aperture system at reduced cost.

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c.

The proposed statement of work (TAB C) will address the questions of feasibility. design fabrication. output and output analysis of Upon completion of this work, a review of accomplishments and potential will indicate advisability of proceeding with a program to build the entire COLT system.

### RECOMMENDATION

Recommend vou authorize SP to contract with Dr. Meinel's group for the study as outlined in TAB C.

LAWRENCE E. PENCE Captain, USAF

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