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13 March 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI

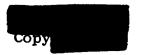
DDCI

SUBJECT

: Dissolution of the CORONA Project Office

- 1. The CORONA program has been handled from its beginning by a group of about ten Air Force officers in the "Program Office" at the Space Systems Division of the Air Force. This group under Colonel Battle and now Colonel Worthington has handled the day-to-day problems associated with CORONA as the directive authority has changed from Bissell to Charyk to McMillan.
- 2. McMillan has twice requested that we concur in his transfer of this unit to special unit under his immediate control as part of his plan to give the entire program to the Air Force. You have twice disapproved this proposal.
- 3. We now have cables indicating that the Program
  Office is to be dissolved and its people transferred elsewhere.
  Its function is to be recreated under
  organization as the Program Office under
- 4. The significance of this action is that perforce the program is being transferred to without our concurrence.

	ALBERT D. WHEELON  Deputy Director  (Science and Technology)	
Attachments:	Declassified and Released by the NRC	
	In Accordance with E. O. 12958 NOV 26 1997	
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9 MAR 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Science and Technology)

SUBJECT: Air Force Organization on CORONA Program

1. This memorandum is for information only. It is based on a briefing of the on 5 March 1964.

- 2. The current CORONA system is operated out of the Space Systems Division (SSD) of the Air Force Systems Command, ostensibly as a research and development payload. The unclassified designator is "Program to the classified name (DOD) is "Discoverer." Gen. Funk is Commander, SSD. Col. Worthington reports to Gen. Funk, head of the Program as deputy. Captains Johnson have been performing the day-by-day coordination with the LMSC/AP organization.
- 3. Director, NRO, Program A, operating from adjacent quarters, as Commander, SSD, is surfacing soon a "new" program, Program with avowed aim of solving certain critical problems arising in other programs under his cognizance. In actuality, this new program, Program will pick up the CORONA program, now under rather than SSD.
- 4. Program will be terminated with the last flight in about April. Residual hardware will be transferred to the high priority Program Col. Worthington will stay with for normal termination activities. As available and needed, personnel will be transferred to Program Col. Worthington will probably be reassigned to Vandenberg. Capt. Johnson is to go to staff school; will be transferred to Program under essentially maintaining his present duties. was project officer for the now defunct E-6 Program.

Handle via

Control System

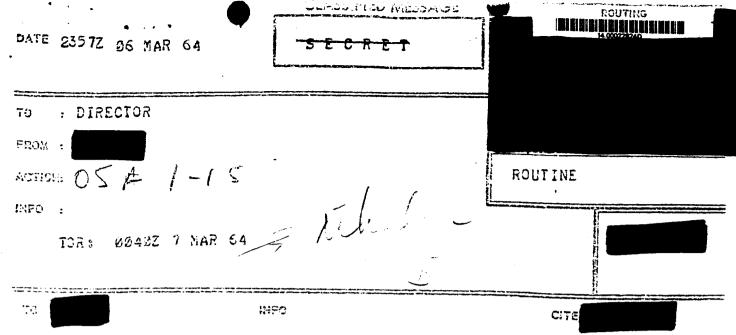
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5. By June, the total direction of the effort will have been transferred from Col. Worthington to Concurrently, formal responsibility will have shifted from Gen. Funk to Contractors have been alerted to the changes; appropriate cover stories are being generated and disseminated.

6. The apparent, overall effect of this reorganization is to formalize and solidify the current role of in directing CORONA as part of NRO, Program A.

COLONEL, USAF Assistant Director

cc: SAS/S&T



CORONA SECUR

- 1. INFO RECEIVED HERE THAT DNRC HAS WIRED GEN. FUN. ADVISING THAT THE PROGRAM DESIGNATOR PROGRAM" HAS BEEN TERMINATED.

  THIS MSG REPORTEDLY STATED THAT THE ASSETS OF THE PROGRAM SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AREAS OR ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE USE FOR THEM.
- 2. PLANS REPORTED TO INCLUDE: FUNCTIONS OF TO BE COVERTLY TRANSFERRED TO THE DIRECTORSHIP OF THE TECHNICAL DIRECTORSHIP TRANSFERRED FROM COL WORTHINGTON TO THE CONTINUING ACTIVITY BEING GIVEN A NEW PROGRAM DESIGNATOR.
- 3. PLANNING FOR THE CONTRACTOR AT SUNNYVALE HAS NOT BEEN LEARNED AT THIS TIME.
  - 4. PLEASE ADVISE.

END OF MESSAGE

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