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In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Fact Sheet Regarding the Allegation that Since August 1964 CIA Has Been Withholding Payload Data from the Air Force in the CORONA Program

1. A review of the data provided to the Air Force by CIA reveals that starting in August 1964, more, repeat more, operational data on the payload has been made available to the Air Force than at any given period of time prior to that date.

2. In fact, it was at that time that CIA began providing the Field Test Force Director (FTFD) at the STC with a data book that contained all of the payload information necessary for the FTFD to carry out his function and responsibilities. This data book included take-up pot calibration data that had not been previously furnished the Field Test Force Director; and, in fact, the FTFD has been kept promptly briefed on the results of analysis of payload telemetry data. No, repeat no, payload data required by the FTFD to support his own operational position has ever been denied.

3. There have been repeated requests in behalf of the [REDACTED] for intimate payload telemetry calibrations. These requests followed the interjection of [REDACTED] as systems engineers into the CORONA program in July 1964. By November 1964 both the NRO, as well as [REDACTED] s organization, repeatedly tried to obtain all payload data and to infuse [REDACTED] personnel into the operation of the payload system. These activities and data requests have been denied by CIA on the grounds that it could be used only to duplicate a payload analysis

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that was already adequately covered by a Government-funded effort involving experienced and competent contractor personnel at the CIA facility. It should be observed that before the [REDACTED] personnel could be reliably used during on-orbit payload operations, their personnel would have to be trained by the same TM analysts that are now doing the job. At no time has the CIA controlled analysis of payload status adversely affected the CORONA program. Experience will testify that, since August 1964, the CORONA payload has averaged more and better returns than any comparable period beforehand.

[REDACTED]

Chief, Special Projects Staff

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