



3 1961

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. R. M. BISSELL, JR.

SUBJECT: Establishment of a Standing Group for the Technical Evaluation of Satellite Reconnaissance Photography

We have been increasingly interested in the amount of technical data being obtained from satellite photography and the methods of providing this data to the Directors of Program and Program and the Aerial Reconnaissance Laboratory, ASD. We find that useful engineering data is being subordinated by the high priority of intelligence information.

Furthermore the compartmentation of operational and intelligence activities into separate secure facilities using separate and special clearances makes it difficult to generate an exchange of information. It is expected that these physical and administrative barriers will continue to retard the desired exchange of technical data which could be useful in improving the performance of satellite reconnaissance systems.

I suggest that we appoint a group of technically qualified persons enjoined with the responsibility of reviewing the results of satellite reconnaissance missions for the specific purpose of accomplishing an engineering evaluation. The intent of this group will be to make recommendations for the improvement of subsequent missions.

The following group, who are currently appropriately cleared and technically qualified, would meet on a periodic basis to determine the characteristics of the photography and the causes of any undesirable effects:

- Mr. Arthur Lundahl, Director, NPIC
- [Redacted] Director of Research, NPIC
- [Redacted], Jr., Chief Photographic Officer, DDP
- [Redacted] Director, Program
- [Redacted] Director, Program
- Col Lee Battle, Director of Discoverer Program, SSD
- [Redacted] Photographic Engineer
- [Redacted] Director of Research, AFSPPL
- [Redacted] Reconnaissance Laboratory, ASD
- [Redacted] Asst for Photography, SA FMS
- [Redacted] Asst for Systems Engineering, SA FMS

HANDLE VIA THE CORONA CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

Copy [Redacted]

Joseph V. Charyk
JOSEPH V. CHARYK
Under Secretary of the Air Force

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13 November 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, TAS, Development Projects Division

SUBJECT : Establishment of a Standing Group for the
Technical Evaluation of Satellite Reconnaissance
Photography

REFERENCE : Memorandum for DD/P, dated 3 November 1961,
from Under Secretary of the Air Force, same
subject. [REDACTED]

This seems to me a good idea. If you agree that it is, I suggest you confer with Art Lundahl, especially so that you may advise me whether we should suggest any additions or deletions concerning the membership of the group. Would you draft a reply to Joe Charyk or else ask [REDACTED] to do so.


RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

[REDACTED]

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In Accordance with E.O. 12958

on ~~NOV 26 1997~~

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