

PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE - WS 117L

Mr. Roy Johnson, Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency, today announced a decision to proceed, through the Air Force, with a national reconnaissance satellite program designated as WS 117L. The prime contractor for this program, previously referred to as "Pied Piper," is the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. This program has the objective of placing large satellites in orbit in order to observe weather phenomena and geography of the earth.

Such satellites have, of course, a great potential for the advancement of scientific knowledge and national security. In particular, they can in the future provide an ideal method for the implementation of the President's open skies proposal and similar programs designed to insure lasting peace and the implementation of international agreements. Their potential for advancing our scientific and technical knowledge of the world we live in and the space surrounding it is unparalleled.



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