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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

WORKING PAPER

THE NRO STAFF

4 August 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR PROGRAM A  
PROGRAM B  
PROGRAM C

SUBJECT: New Charter for the NRP

Attached for your information is a copy of the most recent version of a draft updated Charter for the conduct of the National Reconnaissance Program. It is our understanding that it is being staffed for consideration by the CFI principals.

*See below*

*Frederick L. Hoffmann*  
FREDERICK L. HOFFMANN  
Colonel, USAF  
Deputy Director for DOD  
and Interagency Policy

1 Attachment  
Draft Charter  
(BYE-13152-76)

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GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF  
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VERSION

AGREEMENT FOR ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING  
OF THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM (NRP)\*

1. Pursuant to Executive Order 11905 and National Security Council Intelligence Directives, the Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence hereby provide for the organization and functioning of a National Reconnaissance Program (NRP) for the collection of foreign intelligence by satellites or such other overhead means as may be assigned to the NRP.

2. The NRP shall combine activities of the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency to assure that the potentialities of U.S. technology and all operational resources and facilities are aggressively and imaginatively exploited to develop and operate systems for the collection of foreign intelligence which are fully responsive to the Government's foreign intelligence needs and objectives.

3. Responsibilities assigned to the NRP have a unique national importance that calls for special arrangements for management and execution of the Program in order to assure the operational flexibility needed to maximize effectiveness and responsiveness of NRP activities. In furtherance of program objectives, the NRP will be accorded the highest priority for Department of Defense and industrial support.

4. The NRP will be managed by a National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), a special office within the Department of Defense for the collection of specialized intelligence information through reconnaissance programs. This agreement sets forth the responsibilities of the NRO, which will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 11905 and its implementing directives.

5. Responsibilities

a. The Secretary of Defense shall direct, fund and operate the NRP. With the concurrence of the Director of Central Intelligence, he shall appoint a senior Department of Defense statutory official to be the Director of the NRO (DNRO). The Deputy Director of the NRO will be selected by the DNRO with the concurrence of the Director of Central Intelligence. The Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence shall provide the necessary support to execute the Program.

\* This agreement supersedes the "Agreement for Reorganization of the National Reconnaissance Program," signed by the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence, dated 11 August 1965.

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b. Policy for the management of the NRP and policy priorities for the collection of intelligence through the Program shall be as established by the National Security Council Committee on Foreign Intelligence in execution of its responsibilities for the National Foreign Intelligence Program.

c. The DNRO shall satisfy, through conduct of the NRP, the national intelligence collection requirements and priorities as developed for the NRP by the Director of Central Intelligence.

d. The DNRO shall establish a joint staff including representation from organizations involved in the NRP to support the Program. Program offices responsible to the DNRO shall be established in appropriate agencies of the Department of Defense, the military services, and the Central Intelligence Agency for the implementation of the NRP. The DNRO shall have the authority to assign responsibilities to the various program offices and departments and agencies of the Government, according to their capabilities and consistent with program guidance from the Committee on Foreign Intelligence.

e. The DNRO shall direct and manage the NRP. Planning and programming for satellite systems or other designated overhead collectors, as approved by the Committee on Foreign Intelligence for the collection of national intelligence information, are the sole responsibility of the DNRO. He shall be responsible for directing the activities conducted by the program offices in research, development, procurement, operation and control of satellite or other designated overhead collectors of foreign intelligence information. The DNRO will not produce finished intelligence.

f. The DNRO shall submit to the Operations Advisory Group of the National Security Council such requests for approval to conduct foreign intelligence collection activities as may be directed by the Operations Advisory Group.

g. Staff support to the Committee on Foreign Intelligence on matters relating to the NRP shall be provided by the Intelligence Community Staff (ICS) on value assessments and cross-program issues, and by the DNRO on system-level and technical issues. The DNRO shall provide his report and recommended program to the Secretary of Defense and the Committee on Foreign Intelligence.

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h. Only those program offices participating in the NRP shall engage in reconnaissance intelligence collection using satellites or conduct studies, advanced technology or development related thereto.

i. The DNRO shall establish direct lines of control and communication to all elements of the NRO and supporting organizations for development, operations, and logistics activities, and ensure their funding. The NRO shall not be subject to Defense Department or CIA administrative instructions or directives except as their application may be beneficial to the management of the NRP, as determined by the DNRO.

j. The DNRO shall establish a fiscal control, accounting, and reporting procedure to ensure that all funds obligated and expended in support of the NRP are fully accounted for and appropriately utilized.

k. The Defense Department Inspector General and General Counsel will have responsibilities in connection with the NRO and Defense Department elements of the NRP as set forth in Section 6 of Executive Order 11905. Comparable responsibilities with respect to Central Intelligence Agency elements participating in the NRP will be exercised by the CIA Inspector General and General Counsel.

l. Contract audit functions will be performed by the Defense Contract Audit Agency, in accordance with covert security procedures.

m. The DNRO shall prepare the budget and program recommendations for the NRP and submit them jointly to the Secretary of Defense and to the Committee on Foreign Intelligence. The DNRO shall defend the NRP budget, as approved by the Secretary of Defense and the Committee on Foreign Intelligence, through briefings to the Congress and elsewhere.

n. The DNRO shall have reprogramming authority within the approved NRP, subject to pertinent statutes and the rules governing the reprogramming of funds that are adopted by the Committee on Foreign Intelligence.

o. By virtue of the authority of the Secretary of Defense under the Armed Services Procurement Act, the NRO is designated a Department of Defense Procuring Activity in accordance with ASPR 1-201.14. The DNRO, as head of a Department of Defense Procuring Activity, may redelegate to NRO program offices procurement authority consistent with Defense Department policy.

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p. By virtue of the authority which the General Services Administration has delegated to the Secretary of Defense, the DNRO shall have the authority to approve the lease or procurement of automated data processing equipment for the NRP consistent with Department of Defense policy and authority.

q. The DNRO shall establish the manning requirements for the NRO, and request manpower support from the appropriate departments and agencies.

r. The Director of Central Intelligence shall provide security policy guidance and security support to maintain a uniform policy within the NRP. The NRP shall be considered a covert activity of the U.S. Government and will not, as a matter of policy, be publicly acknowledged without the approval of the Director of Central Intelligence. The DNRO is responsible for recommending to the Director of Central Intelligence the security measures considered necessary for the protection of the NRP and for implementation of security procedures.

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Robert F. Ellsworth  
Deputy Secretary of Defense

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George Bush  
Director of Central Intelligence

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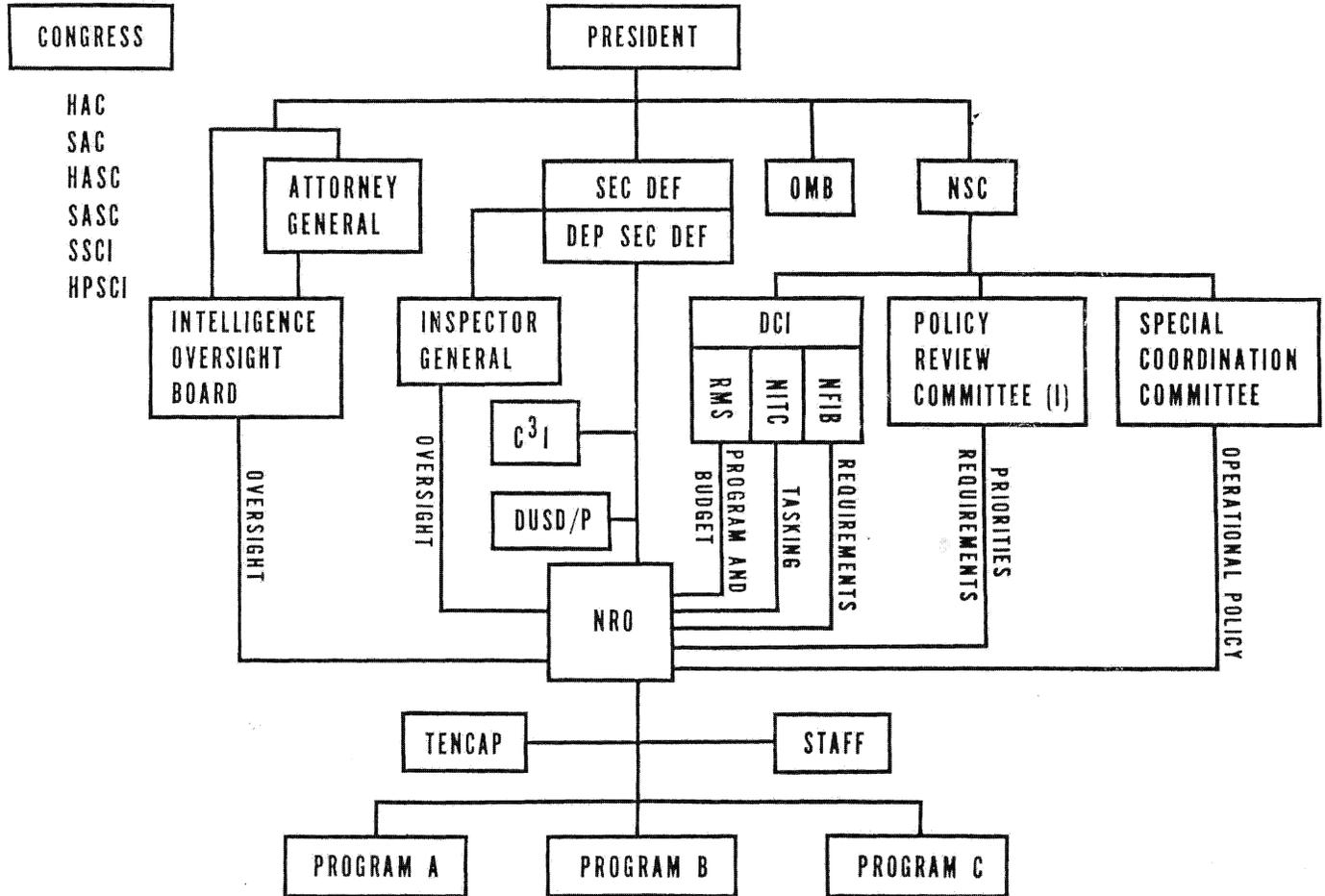
## ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES

- o SINGLE DEDICATED SPACE ORGANIZATION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL CINCS AND OTHER USERS
  
- o HIGHLY SKILLED EXPERIENCED (SPACE) LEADERSHIP AND MANNING HAVING DIRECT ACCESS TO JCS AND OTHER TASKING AUTHORITIES
  
- o DECISIONS IN DIRECT CHANNELS

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# THE NRP ORGANIZATIONAL ENVIRONMENT



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