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20 AUG 1968



MEMORANDUM FOR DR. BROWN



SUBJECT: The Proper Location of the SAFSS/SP

You recently asked me to give some thought to the proper location of the Office of Space Systems (SAFSS) and the Directorate of Special Projects (SAFSP), for administrative purposes. One possibility you suggested for examination was to transfer support of these offices to the Air Force Systems Command, giving them an organizational status similar to General Stewart's MOL Office.

In reviewing the possibilities, I got in touch with Brigadier General Russ Berg to be up-dated on the mission, charter, functions, and structure of the NRO of which SAFSS/SP form only a part. As a result of this briefing, as well as our subsequent conversation, I became convinced that we would do well to continue SAFSS/SP in their present OSAF location. I noted in particular rather fundamental dissimilarities between these offices and the MOL Office, the latter being clearly an Air Force operation while SAFSS/SP, being a part of the NRO, involve a number of non-Air Force agencies and are, in fact, part of a national office covertly located with us. The direct tie-in of Dr. Flax with the NRO is also worth noting and argues for retaining the office at the secretarial level. Finally, it is clear that the very sensitive and important mission of the NRO calls for it to be supported directly at your level, very much as evidenced by your memorandum of October 7, 1965 (attached).

In terms of specifics, SAFSS/SP impact my office (and yours) in three main areas: manpower, floor space, and travel funds. The NRO Staff (SAFSS) and Major General John Martin's west coast operation (SAFSP) have limited themselves to 45 Air Force spaces apiece, (officers, civilians, and airmen), all of which are on the manning document of the 1132d Field Extension Squadron of Headquarters Command. General Berg advises me that the total

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manpower demand of the entire National Reconnaissance Program -- considering Air Force, Army, Navy, NSA, and CIA elements -- can peak, upon occasion, at about 4000 people. In the light of this, I believe the NRO has done well to limit its unique Air Force manpower requirement to 90 spaces and to seek the bulk of its support from manpower in existing organizations.

As regards floor space, the only augmentation requested over the recent several years has been for the NRO Satellite Operations Center, in the basement of the Pentagon. When I described the very serious problem we face in attempting to acquire more floor space, the NRO later re-worked its floor plan and moved a substantial portion of its operation (the covert communication facilities) to Andrews AFB.

There has been continuing concern about the size of SAFSP travel funding, which cost \$450,000 in FY 1968, and has been requested by SP at over \$550,000 in FY 1969. There have been a number of unsuccessful explorations of means to reduce approved costs against the OSAF budget, including a study on furnishing SP with two aircraft. However, [] has developed a workable alternative that will reduce the OSAF funding -- this is to establish in the SAMSO FY 1970 travel budget \$300,000 as a fixed amount exclusively for SAFSP, and not subject to organizational considerations. Major General Paul Cooper has concurred in this arrangement. The balance of funding would be financed by OSAF, with the total requirements to be reviewed by a team of General Berg, [] and myself. The \$300,000 is not in the current DDR&E FY70 budget, so a budget issue paper for your signature may be necessary.

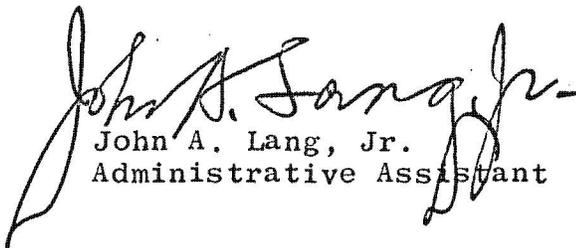
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and I will have solid assurance of the validity of each requirement. I am sure we can make appropriate arrangements and will advise you of the outcome of our discussions.


John A. Lang, Jr.
Administrative Assistant

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

AHE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

EXTRACT

November 9, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR Chief of Staff, USAF
Under Secretary of the Air Force
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
(Installations & Logistics)
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
(Financial Management)
Commander, AFSC
Comptroller of the Air Force
Director, Office of Information
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority to Director, National
Reconnaissance Office

On 1 October, the Deputy Secretary of Defense appointed
Dr. Alexander H. Flax as Director, National Reconnaissance Office
(DNRO), in addition to his duties as Assistant Secretary of the Air
Force (R&D).

Since the Office of Space Systems (SAFSS) and the Office of
Special Projects (SAFSP) are concerned only with National Reconnaissance
Program matters, I hereby delegate full directive authority over
all of their activities to Dr. Flax.

Dr. Flax also is delegated the authority to act for me on all
Air Force matters -- including personnel, materiel, and fiscal
resources -- associated with the National Reconnaissance Office
and/or within the purview of the National Reconnaissance Program,

cc: Dep Sec/Def

Harold Brown
Harold Brown

EXTRACT

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

9 Aug 68

NOTE FOR MR. LANG, SAFAA

The attached draft is our proposed memorandum to Dr. Brown for your signature concerning administrative support of SAFSS/SP. I believe it covers all of the points we covered in our discussions on 7 August. Please review it, making changes you feel are necessary. We will prepare it in final form for your signature.



RUSSELL A. BERG
Brigadier General, USAF
Director
NRO Staff

13 Aug 68

Russ:

I think the attached is very adequate. I would like to have you and me a little more on the contents of the last paragraph on page 3. I've my pen to the paper in final form. Call me and I can come over.

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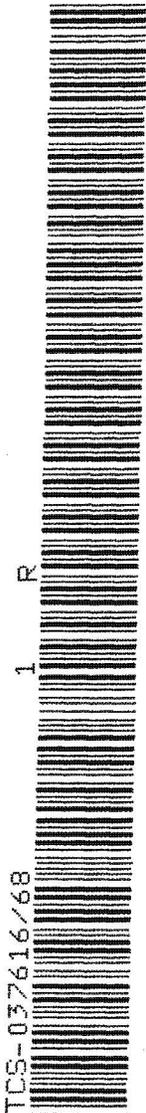
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John A. Lang, Jr.
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1 TO	SAFSS	INITIALS		CIRCULATE	
		DATE		COORDINATION	
2				FILE	X
				INFORMATION	X
3				NOTE AND RETURN	
				PER CON-VERSATION	
4				SEE ME	
				SIGNATURE	

REMARKS

Mr Lang has seen.

FROM	JACK L. LOWTHER, Captain, USAF Special Activities Office ACS/Intelligence	DATE	20 AUG 1968
		PHONE	

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE ROUTING SLIP				DATE <i>20 Aug 68</i>	
TO	OFFICE	COPIES TO	TO	OFFICE	COPIES TO
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	CHIEF OF STAFF			GENERAL COUNSEL	
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	ASSISTANT SECRETARY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT			OFFICE OF INFORMATION	
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TYPE OF ACTION					
	APPROPRIATE ACTION	ACTION ASSIGNED TO			
	REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>SAFAA</i>			
	DIRECT REPLY	ATTENTION			
	INFO ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY	<i>Mr Lang</i>			
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	COORDINATION				
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	NOTE AND FORWARD				
	FILE				
	PREPARE REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF	SUSPENSE DATE			
REMARKS					
<i>Please note Mr Brown's comments</i>					
✓				<i>BG</i>	
BY DIRECTION OF:				BRIAN S. GUNDERSON	
	THE SECRETARY	Colonel, USAF			
	THE UNDER SECRETARY	Executive Assistant to the			
	THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Secretary of the Air Force			

AFHQ

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PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE

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