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October 21, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: BOB Question Concerning ATS C&D

On October 13 [] NASA, called and stated that they were having their formal budget hearings with BOB that day and that a [] of the BOB had forwarded a question: "Are the ATS C&D systems identical to the Air Force recoverable reconnaissance vehicles or is additional development funding required?" The paper was sent to NASA unclassified. [] expressed the obvious concern about the security problem.

I called Mr. Sorrels and explained the problem to him. He called back and stated that he had talked to [] and that [] understood the problem and would attempt to rectify it. I called [] and told him that although the answer to the question posed to NASA was "no," we hoped [] understood the significant concern we had with the breach of security. [] stated that he did.

We later that morning received correspondence from NASA which indicated that the ATS C&D satellites were in fact film recovery type systems. I called [] and expressed to him the fact that we had answered [] incorrectly and that I planned to call [] and explain to him the fact that the information I had given him previously, while it may have been accurate, was based upon erroneous information. [] did not truly understand my position and indicated that he preferred that I not call [] and explain the discrepancy. I felt it necessary finally to tell [] that we would call [] in any event.

On Tuesday I called [] and explained the fact that although the answer to his initial question to NASA may in fact be "no," my previous answer had been based upon my erroneous understanding of the ATS C&D satellites. I told him that he could

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ask the same question of NASA in the proper security context, further that he could ask the question of appreciated the call and stated that he would look into the matter and determine what further information he required.



JOHN R. MECEDA
Captain, USAF

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