

~~TOP SECRET~~

HANDLE VIA
COMINT CONTROL SYSTEM

~~U.S.~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

aka.
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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

June 23, 1971

Dear Dick,

I have just finished reading a speech presented by Senator Humphrey on the Space Program which was inserted in the June 18 Congressional Record by Representative Teague. In the speech, Senator Humphrey openly acknowledges and discusses the Satellite Reconnaissance Program. I believe that this speech could lead to some very undesirable consequences. Other knowledgeable people who become familiar with this speech may feel that it is acceptable to discuss the Satellite Reconnaissance Program in the public domain. I also feel that those who maintain a speculative interest in our activities may use this speech as a basis for undesirable publicity. Although he is inaccurate in his details, he discusses our ability to take extremely good pictures, a subject which we consider to be especially sensitive.

I feel that continued exposure of this nature may inhibit operations and could be provocative in view of Senator Humphrey's present and former positions and prestige. I believe it is appropriate to use your good offices to inform Senator Humphrey of the current national policy regarding Satellite Reconnaissance and to minimize the impact of this breach.

Sincerely,

John L. McLucas

1 Attachment
Congressional Record Excerpt

The Honorable Richard Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C.

6/25/71

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

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EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION
EXEMPTION DOES NOT APPLY

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RDZ