

**The Recon - August 05, 2003**~~SECRET//BYE.~~**DDNRO responds to U.S. News & World Report article on NRO**

The following text appeared in Deputy Director's Note Number 2003-06 dated Aug. 4, 2003.

~~(S//BYE)~~ The article in this week's issue of *U.S. News & World Report* is, I suspect, as frustrating to you as it is to me. What we would all like to do is to lay out for the American people just one day's worth of the intelligence we provide to this Nation's leaders, both civilian and military. Every day, NRO satellites provide actionable intelligence [redacted] and helps to provide humanitarian aid to people in crisis. But we can't—the intelligence we provide is too fragile, subject to denial if our enemies knew what we can do from space. So, we must continue to labor in silence, while some reporters make a living selling sensational headlines and stories based on partial truths with an emphasis on the negative to compensate for a lack of facts.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

~~(S//BYE)~~ We do things every day at the NRO that most other nations don't believe are possible or wouldn't attempt even if they believed they were possible. The nature of our business is that the [redacted]

[redacted] We would not have survived the past 43 years if our Nation's leaders did not believe that the products each of you provide weren't worth the investment needed to bring these technological marvels to reality.

(U) Security requires us to suffer our critics in silence, however ill informed and misleading they may be. We have the satisfaction of knowing the truth.

[Click here to read the U.S. News & World Report article about the NRO.](#)

~~SECRET//BYE.~~

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~~SECRET//TK~~

**(U) Security reminder about discussing NRO programs**

~~(S//TK)~~ An article appearing in *U.S. News & World Report* dated Aug. 11, 2003, entitled *Lack of Intelligence*, discusses several NRO satellite programs and some details purporting to be budget data [redacted]

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

~~(U//FOUO)~~ Personnel are cautioned against answering any inquires regarding the above article. All media inquires should be forwarded to the NRO Office of Corporate Communications. Please advise [redacted] or [redacted] of any such inquiries. Mention of NRO programs in open source publications, such as above, does **not** mean data is or has been DECLASSIFIED. Employees must continue to treat information disclosed in such a manner as classified and bring it to the attention of your local security officer.

(U) Questions may be addressed to the NRO Security Policy Branch at STU-III [redacted] or secure [redacted] (b)(3)

~~SECRET//TK~~

