

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 12:23 PM
To: [Redacted] Beard Maura A NRO USA GOV; [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] (b)(3)
 [Redacted] Outzen James D NRO USA GOV [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT) --- UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Good afternoon [Redacted]

Did AS&T reply to your questions?
The reporter will be publishing the story today.

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 9:36 AM
To: Beard Maura A NRO USA GOV [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] (b)(3)
 [Redacted]
 Outzen James D NRO USA GOV [Redacted]
 [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT) --- UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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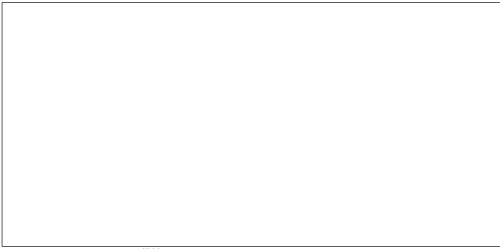
Good Morning,

BPO Security is working this request.

The donated item in question was not handled by CSNR. AS&T was involved in this action, currently awaiting a response from AS&T.

Thank you,

(b)(3)



CAUTION: This e-mail may contain sensitive personally identifiable information (PII) or personal health information (PHI) protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 and HIPPA. Do not forward or otherwise disseminate to government or non-government personnel who do not have an official need for the information. If you have received this e-mail in error, immediately notify the sender and the NRO Privacy and Civil Liberties Program at [redacted] This statement has been approved by the NRO Office of General Counsel and the Privacy and Civil Liberties Program.

From: Beard Maura A NRO USA GOV [redacted] (b)(3)

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 8:35 AM

To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

[redacted] (b)(3)

Outzen James D NRO USA GOV [redacted]

Subject: RE: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT) --- UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Good morning BPO Security,

Checking in on this statement we are hoping to clear for the media. The reporter is holding releasing their story until we get back to them.

Best,
Maura

Maura Beard
Director, Office of Public Affairs
Deputy Director, Office of Congressional and Public Affairs
National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)



From: [redacted] (b)(3)

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 2:36 PM

To: [redacted]

Cc: Beard Maura A NRO USA GOV [redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted] Outzen James D NRO USA GOV [Redacted]
[Redacted]

(b)(3)

Subject: RE: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT) --- UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Good afternoon,

BPO Security is looking into this and should have an answer soon.

Thank you,

[Redacted]

(b)(3)



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From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 1:17 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Beard Maura A NRO USA GOV [Redacted]
[Redacted] Outzen James D NRO USA GOV [Redacted]
[Redacted]

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(b)(3)

Subject: FW: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT) --- UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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BPO Security,

We're planning to respond to a media query asking about NRO's Segmented Mirror Telescope that was donated to the Naval Postgraduate School in 2010. The background info and on-the-record response is below for your review. Please confirm everything below is UNCLAS (note the hyperlink is on NRO.gov). Thanks!

VR



(b)(3)

On background: When NRO's Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT) was donated to the Naval Postgraduate School in 2010 our office had not sent out a press release so we don't have a previous announcement to share. And since 2010 NRO's Center for the Study of National Reconnaissance has not released any additional declassified info on SMT.

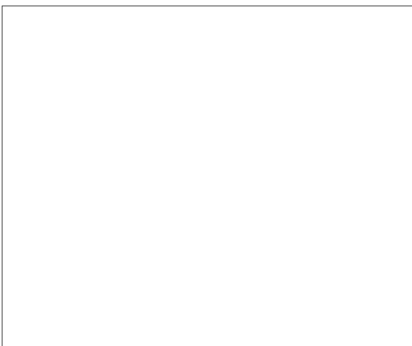
There is another declassified segmented mirror technology that goes back to the NRO's Dorian camera system for the Manned Orbiting Laboratory. After the Dorian system was cancelled, the mirror segments were transferred to the University of Arizona Multi Mirror Telescope Observatory. Info on Dorian can be found here:

<https://www.nro.gov/FOIA/Frequently-Requested-Records/DORIAN/>

Following response is on the record, attributable to an NRO spokesperson:

Since 1961, NRO has pushed the envelope of U.S. space-based intelligence collection with boldness and ingenuity. NRO's Segmented Mirror Telescope and the segmented mirror technology for the Dorian camera system demonstrate NRO's ground-breaking research that goes back to the 1960s and continues to benefit the nation today. The science and technology that enables James Webb Space Telescope today is an expansion of the technology pioneered by NRO engineers and partners decades ago.

VR



(b)(3)

From: Dan Vergano 

(b)(6)

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:23 AM

To: Media <Media@nro.mil>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT)

Just resending this because requests sometimes get missed over the weekend, and it also looks like President Biden will speak about these JWST images at 5 pm ET today, which may advance our timing on the story I queried for.

Thanks for any help,

Dan

From: Dan Vergano 

(b)(6)

Date: Sunday, July 10, 2022 at 3:55 PM

To: media@nro.mil <media@nro.mil>

Subject: Grid News: History query / Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT)

To: News Office, NRO
From: Dan Vergano, Grid News

I'm a science reporter at Grid News, and we wonder if your office can point us to any history for a story we are working. On Tuesday, NASA will release a set of first images from the James Webb Space Telescope and we are doing a piece on the history of that program. A few astronomers have pointed to NRO's Segmented Mirror Telescope (SMT), donated to the Naval Postgraduate School in 2010 (link below), as a prototype that gave the science community confidence in the JWST's elaborate deployment working out so well now.

We are wondering if NRO has ever released anything on its role in pioneering this kind of telescope (since SMT must have been declassified to some extent to release to NPS)? Or if you can comment in any other fashion on the agency having a role in science benefitting from this kind of space-based technology (if there was an NRO news release to this effect back in 2010, I can't find it)?

Any help appreciated, a lot of readers are going to hear about this large telescope for the first time this week, and we'd like to make sure any credit goes where credit is due.

Dan Vergano
Grid News



(b)(6)

Grid News
400 N. Capitol St. NW
Washington, DC 20001

Link: <https://nps.edu/-/nps-new-home-for-giant-segmented-mirror-space-telescope>

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