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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

5 December 1969

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NASA/CORONA Meeting

At 1030, 4 December, I met with representatives of NASA, State Department, and Executive (Dr. Martin, [redacted], and Lt Col Williamson) to discuss the possibility of NASA using the CORONA system. The meeting was sponsored by [redacted]

The agenda items were: (1) System Availability Costs and Capabilities, (2) Potential for NASA Use - Program Impact, and (3) Advanced Technology. The main spokesman for NASA was Mr. Jaffe.

Significant statements made are as follows:

a. Jaffe visited Lockheed last week and asked preliminary questions about possible modification to the CORONA system. Main modifications being considered are addition of a 15-inch section and inclusion of two additional DISIC cameras. Lockheed is expected to reply by 15 December. At that time NASA expects to be able to develop detailed questions for study effort through us.

b. Jaffe said their ERS C&D would not cost any more than \$50M either. Where did we get the \$250M figure?

c. Jaffe said ERS A&B were absolutely essential and must be flown. They have priority over C&D.

d. They are not in the least enchanted with the PAN cameras. They question their product usefulness in their user community. They believe it will be difficult to justify and still maintain a reasonable cover.

e. For ERS, significant value is repetitive coverage and different spectral coverage. Resolution has no value.

f. NASA might have no money for C and D until this time next year. They have the impression that we will carry the program into FY 71 with our funds (General Smart); that is contrary to my understanding.

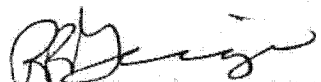
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g. They really only want two systems vice three.

h. They feel that the cover story and their justification to their user community will have to vary depending on whether a carbon copy or modified versions can be used.

The meeting ended with the ball in NASA's pocket. They are supposed to react about 15 December. Jaffe mentioned that he would like to meet with Mr. Karth and with someone from our office (Dr. Naka) the week of 15 December.

  
ROBERT K. GEIGER  
Captain, USN

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