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November 26, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with NASA on the CORONA System

Dr. Naka called a meeting on November 19 to discuss with NASA the offer made by Dr. McLucas to use CORONA vehicles in the ERS role. Present from the NRO were Dr. Naka, Captain Geiger, Major Schow and I. NASA was represented by Mr. Jaffe, Mr. Krueger, all cleared at least TK.

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Mr. Jaffe said that as a first requirement NASA needs a product with a ground resolution on the order of 100 feet. They would like three and perhaps four cameras operating simultaneously to gather a multispectral set of data. They would like an option to photograph an area of primary interest as many as four times within a 30 day mission.

NASA does not yet have an answer to questions of trade-offs, such as covering large areas of the earth once during a mission or one area such as the continental U.S. several times. Nor do they really know the answer to the value of flying multispectral missions vs. using one type of film on a mission. It does appear that as a minimum they want to fly color IR film, and they prefer to break black and white coverage into at least three spectral regions.

NASA anticipates going to NRO contractors with questions, but Mr. Jaffe assured us that they would go through this office in doing so. He also recognized that possibly NASA funds would be involved for funded studies. He indicated that included in their studies could be options which would satisfy the needs of both NASA and the NRO, should the NRO require additional CORONA spacecraft.

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Dr. Naka indicated he should like to address the security problem to the right people by the end of December and that we should proceed to answer questions on the ERS application of CORONA as soon as possible. To this end NASA was to try to generate questions for the NRO to answer in about one week.

In a conversation between Captain Geiger and Mr. Jaffe outside of this meeting, NASA had indicated that they hoped to be able to conduct this project by clearing only three additional people for CORONA access: of Houston.

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FREDERICK L. HOFMANN
Major, USAF

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