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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

14 June 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. McLUCAS

Dr. McLucas has seen. *24 June 71 WLS*

SUBJECT: Highlights of the Land Panel Meeting, 11 June 1971

1. Attendees

NRO: Dr. Naka  
Col Bradburn  
Capt Drain

SAFSP: Gen Allen  
Col Bonner  
Col Stelling

Aerospace:



NSA:


CIA: Mr. Brownman  
Mr. Inlow  
Mr. Roth

Panel Members Present

Dr. Land  
Dr. Garwin  
Dr. Goldberger  
Dr. Drell  
Dr. Puckett  
Dr. Ling  
Dr. Martin, Ex Secy

(b)(3)

2. Topics covered:

NRT Requirements..... Mr. Inlow  
GAMBIT Readout System.... Col Bonner &   
EOI System..... Mr. Roth & Mr. Dirks  
Executive Session

(Scheduled reports on  and HEXAGON were deleted for lack of time.)

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

*Naka*

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3. NRT Requirements. Mr. Inlow reported on the recent COMIREX study of crisis scenarios. He described the size and shape of the area involved in each of seven crisis situations; he also discussed the resolution requirements appropriate to each of the cases. There was considerable variation on these points from case to case; however, as an average, 4000 sq nm and, I believe, 1-5 feet resolution were the numbers distilled out of the study. I found it interesting that Mr. Inlow did not describe any timeliness criteria during this briefing. That is, he did not show any data on how the faster availability of photographs would have improved our response during the crisis. Dr. Garwin picked up this point and volunteered some ideas on the value of timeliness but it was my impression after the discussion was completed that the whole matter remains in the realm of intuition.

4. GAMBIT Readout. Col Bonner and [ ] gave a technical description of the camera package (minor changes); the orbital control vehicle or Agena (moderate changes); and the film processing and readout module (new). Dr. Land appeared skeptical. He repeatedly challenged Gen Allen with observations that the GAMBIT readout system depends upon technologies unfamiliar to the Panel members and that questions of feasibility could not be examined by the Panel because all that was being offered was assurances from contractors. Gen Allen said he would answer any specific questions in whatever detail was desired. A meeting was set up in Sunnyvale with Dr. Garwin, Dr. Drell, and Gen Allen on June 13 to discuss some specifics. The main items of concern with Dr. Land are Bi-Mat processing and laser scanner (particularly bearing wear-out).

(b)(3)

5. EOI System. Mr. Roth gave a technical description of EOI system and schedule status. His base schedule was for January 1976 first launch. In response to a prior request from the Panel, he also presented an accelerated schedule showing a December 1974 first launch at increased funding.

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6. I did not attend the Executive Session, but Dr. Naka was invited to attend; he will give you a verbal report. I came away with the impression that Dr. Land is not conscious of any fundamental technical problems in the EOI System and that he is not especially critical of the looseness of the requirements situation. To put it another way, if EOI is a technology-driven development Dr. Land is a main driver.

*David D. Bradburn*

David D. Bradburn  
Colonel, USAF  
Director

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