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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

12 July 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Possible NASA Use of North Base

On 11 July 1974, Major Harvey (SS-7) and [] (AFRDS) consulted SS-3 regarding a proposal to have a joint USAF/NASA group inspect the NRO facility at North Base, Edwards AFB, with a view to utilizing the area for horizontal flight testing of the space shuttle. [] was seeking security advice on the proposed visit.

I called [], Deputy Security Officer for the Office of Special Activities, CIA, which is responsible for the operation of North Base. He advised that possible NASA use of the base is anticipated, and OSA is preparing a cover story to provide a "white" background for the facility if NASA should utilize it in the future. He suggested that ID clearances would be appropriate although arrangements possibly could be worked out for a non-compartmented visit. He suggested I check with [], Executive Officer for OSA.

[] confirmed that NASA interest in the base is anticipated, that OSA desires to be cooperative, and he agreed that no further coordination except for info copies of messages organizing the visit would be required.

I suggested to [] that he ascertain who would be included in the visiting party from NASA and USAF, and we could structure security requirements after the clearances of the individuals were determined. He concurred in this approach and said he would advise me when he knows the makeup of the proposed inspection group.



Assistant for Security

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