

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.



27 March 1975

THE NRO STAFF

POINT PAPER FOR DR. COOK

Civil Agencies Requirement for KH-9 Coverage of the U.S.

- ° The Forest Service, NOAA, Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Geological Survey have jointly requested USIB to commit to the providing of satellite imagery on a programmed basis to the civil organization.
- ARGO was an informal mechanism, under White House aegis, established several years ago to sponsor these kinds of requirements.
- ARGO was "cancelled" when the President's Science Advising office was established and the mechanism replaced it.
- KH-4 and KH-9 imagery have been furnished to the civilian agencies through the Reston facility.
- ICRS and the MC&G working group have allocated limited film to NRO for this purpose.
- NRO has been looking for a single point of contact in the civil community for requirements and resource tradeoffs.
- DCI has no legal authority to use NFIP assets for domestic use.
- NRO should plan to interface with discretion so as not to undermine DCI position.
- NRO concurs in the letter but wishes to point out that as widespread civil use of KH imagery occurs, the civilian agencies should be aware of the continuing need to protect sources and methods of the imagery used. The NRO would like to see encouragement to the establishment of a single focal point in the civilian community for the consolidation of requirements and interface with the NRO.

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◦ OMNIBUS NSCID

- DIA has made inputs of questionable value to the OMNIBUS NSCID and has stalled its finalization.
 - IC Staff would like to have the DIA inputs modified to contextualize the NSCID.
 - IC Staff would like the DCI to urge finalization but DCI may not bring the issue up now.
- NRO does not have an opinion on this and thinks that at the "secret" level the present draft represents a satisfactory tone vis-a-vis NRO.

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