

~~TOP SECRET~~HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MURPHY, SS-4

SUBJECT: HEXAGON Block IV Study

Mr. Plummer has directed that a study to support HEXAGON Block IV planning be conducted within SAFSP/SAFSS, starting immediately. Since this study is not to conflict with the Search Performance Study, it should be closely held within the Staff. As indicated in the attached message, we are to send revisions to the collection and hardware requirements to SP by 6 March 1975. Request you develop these revisions in coordination with SS-7.

Robert A. Rosenberg
ROBERT A. ROSENBERG
Colonel, USAF
Acting Director

Atch

cc: SS-6

HEXAGON

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEMCLASSIFIED BY BYEMAN - 1 EXEMPT FROM
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-
GORY 5B2 DECLASSIFY ON IMP DET.~~TOP SECRET~~

Approved for Release: 2025/07/25 C05127330

CONTROL NO Internal
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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION			
SECRET			
TYPE MSG	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE
PRECEDENCE			
ACTION ROUTINE			
INFO			
FROM: WHIG			
TO: CHARGE			
SECRET CITE _____ HANDLE VIA BYEMAN CONTROL SYSTEM HEXAGON FOR MAJ/GEN BRADBURN FROM COL WHEELER ^{ROSENBERG} / SUBJECT: PLANNING FOR HEXAGON BLOCK IV 1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MR. PLUMMER AND YOURSELF ON 24 FEB, REQUEST YOU INITIATE A PLANNING STUDY FOR THE HEXAGON BLOCK IV. ALTHOUGH AN EXCOM DECISION FOR GO-AHEAD OF BLOCK IV IS NOT EXPECTED BEFORE JULY 1977, THE PLANNING AND PREPARATION FOR THAT DECISION SHOULD PROCEED NOW TO INSURE THAT EARLY PRELIMINARY DECISIONS ARE MADE ON TIME AND THAT NECESSARY DATA IS AVAILABLE WHEN NEEDED. 2. TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES, SCHEDULE VARIATIONS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS SHOULD BE ESTIMATED SEPARATELY FROM THE FISCAL GUIDANCE TO MAINTAIN LOW VISIBILITY ON THE ACTIVITY. ITEMS FOR BLOCK IV CONSIDERATION SHOULD			
D R A F T E R	TYPED NAME AND TITLE		SIGNATURE
	LT. COL HUTCHISON <i>Mr. Murphy</i> <i>Donaldson</i>		<i>Rosenberg</i>
	TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE		
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION		REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS	
SECRET <i>Murphy</i>			

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

 HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
 CONTROL SYSTEM

DISTRIBUTION:

DNRO	
RD-2	
SS-1	X
SS-2 EXEC	
SS-2 ADMIN	X
SS-3	
SS-4	
SS-5	
SS-6	
SS-7	X
SS-8	
COMP	X
COMM	
RD-2 RF	
RF	X
FILE	7

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INCLUDE DESIRABILITY AND IMPACT OF CONTRACT COMPETITION 7
FOR SEGMENTS OF THE HEXAGON SYSTEM WHERE SIGNIFICANT
COST REDUCTION IS POSSIBLE THROUGH SIMPLIFICATION.
CHANGES TO CURRENT CAPABILITY, INCLUDED REDUCED COMPLEXITY,
SHOULD BE INCLUDED, RECOGNIZING THAT THE GOAL OF THIS
EXERCISE IS TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF SIGNIFICANT
REDUCTIONS IN PROJECTED PROGRAM COSTS. THE WHIG STAFF
WILL PROVIDE A LIST OF REVISIONS TO THE CURRENT ^{CAPABILITY} REQUIREMENTS
BY 6 MARCH 1975. YOUR SUGGESTIONS IN THIS AREA ARE
SOLICITED; THE WHIG/WAHOO STAFF WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO YOUR
SUGGESTIONS FOR REQUIREMENTS REVISIONS THROUGHOUT THE
STUDY. IN ORDER TO ASSESS THE LONG TERM COST TRADE-OFF
IMPLEMENTATIONS, COST ESTIMATES SHOULD COVER A TEN-YEAR
PERIOD COVERING ANY POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND
OPERATION OF BLOCK IV.

3. REQUEST YOU PROVIDE A PRELIMINARY PLAN BY EARLY APRIL
TO PERMIT CONSIDERATION OF DECISION MILESTONE CHANGES AND
POTENTIAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS BEGINNING IN FY-76 OR FY-77.
A COMPLETED PROGRAM PLAN AND RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE
SUBMITTED BY LATE MAY OR EARLY JUNE. AT THE PRESENT
TIME THIS PLANNING DATA IS BEING DEVELOPED FOR THE DNRO'S

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only

CONSIDERATION THEREFORE, ACTIVITIES AND CONFIGURATIONS
RELATED TO THIS EFFORT SHOULD NOT BE PRESENTED OR DISCUSSED
IN ANY OF THE CURRENT INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STUDIES.
E-2 IMPDET

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