

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF

March 6, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR LT COLONEL HUTCHISON, SS-7

SUBJECT: SS-6 Comments on Planning for Block IV HEXAGON Message

SP should be given the opportunity to optimally design a system within cost constraints as identified using the latest definition of the search problem. The Chairman/ICRS says community is moving towards community adoption of the 3 x 3 cell and 8-periodicities some time next year. ICRS recognizes that current system software is based on 12 x 18 WAG cells and that for use by HEXAGON and [redacted], a 3 x 3 transform will have to be made.

It is highly probable that the software will have to be changed. Further, with the advent of the multi-purpose simulator in 1976, the mission planning and operational software for a 1980 HEXAGON does not appear to be an East Coast or OD&E function.

See the attached recommended changes:

"C. Requirements. For some time COMIREX has been accounting at the 3NM x 3NM cell level. COMIREX is in the process of grouping these cells into 8 periodicities. Preliminary data is available and will be provided for your study."

"D. Software. Hardware changes which affect mission planning and operational software should be identified. Necessary changes to the software should be identified and costed."

James R. Blankenship
JAMES R. BLANKENSHIP
Colonel, USAF

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SF. *HEXAGON* *cat*

6 MAR 1975

KENNEN/HEXAGON

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