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RFR-2-8



5

DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
TO THE  
NRP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
ON THE  
FY 1970 PROGRAM

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1021

ADDSY PROCESSED

Date ..... Initials .....

August 8, 1969

CORONA [REDACTED] AGBOARD

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CONTENTS

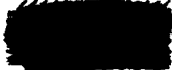
	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	1
General	1
Organization	2
FY 1970 Program Issues	3
[REDACTED]	3
[REDACTED]	4
[REDACTED]	5
[REDACTED]	6
[REDACTED]	6
[REDACTED]	7
[REDACTED]	7
[REDACTED]	7
[REDACTED]	8
[REDACTED]	8
[REDACTED]	8
R&D (Satellite)	
U-2 Aircraft	
Advanced Aircraft	

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CONTROL NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
COPY \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES  
PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES

~~TOP SECRET~~



Introduction:

I have provided, separately, a report on the financial aspects of the FY 1970 program in which several issues were outlined for Executive Committee consideration on August 8. This report will address the highlights of NRP status and the FY 1970 program and present specific descriptions of those additional issues for Executive Committee consideration on August 15.

General:

I have submitted an FY 1970 base program which I believe can be accomplished within the present budget and which represents the best possible response to the collection needs expressed by USIB and to the guidance I have received from the Executive Committee. Included are a number of options which relate to the purchase of additional spacecraft for current programs (specifically, [redacted] and [redacted] or options which relate to the possible start of new programs (such as Readout and [redacted]). Several of these options would require additional F. . . funds. Through careful control, I believe I can manage satisfactorily the base program within my current authority and budgetary allocations. As is indicated by potential funding deficiencies, the budget for . . . program

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PAGE 1 OF \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES

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is tight; therefore, I intend to exert stringent budgetary controls on the program throughout the year. In those instances in which the program is not fully responsive to USIB requirements, I will call the deficiencies to your attention.

Organization:

There have been several recent key personnel changes in the NRO: Dr. Robert Naka is now my Deputy, having replaced Mr. Reber on July 1, 1969; Brigadier General William G. King, Jr., replaced Major General John L. Martin as Director of NRO Program A, headquartered in Los Angeles. Colonel Lew Allen was appointed Director of the NRO Staff on June 20, succeeding Brigadier General Berg. I intend to make other changes, specifically, as I discussed previously, the establishment of a systems analysis capability within the NRO Staff. For the present, I am satisfied with both the organization and manning of the NRO.

Mr. Laird's recent realignment of responsibilities for DOD intelligence program management will influence the NRO. The management of resource allocations among the CIF, JCP and NRP by Bob Froehke's office will probably result in the assumption of an additional administrative support workload by the NRO; however,

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PAGE 2 OF \_\_\_\_\_

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I am convinced that we can constructively provide the support necessary to achieve Mr. Laird's objective. I understand that my relations with the Executive Committee will remain unchanged.

FY 1970 Program Issues:

The issue papers which I provided for your review in preparation for the August 8 meeting outline the proposed allocation to specific programs. In the paragraphs which follow, I will comment on each of the major efforts.

I am concerned with cost growths in all our programs. A portion of this cost growth can be attributed to inflation but most, I believe, is due to the technical difficulties encountered in extremely advanced programs whose major subsystems are being developed concurrently.

Although many of the technical problems in our developmental systems are behind us, we will probably continue to be plagued by cost and schedule difficulties normally associated with major technical advancements in rather large, sophisticated, concurrent subsystem developments.

Barring any unexpected major technical difficulties, I am convinced I can control these programs within the budget.

 CORONA


On June 20, I presented to you a special report on these programs.


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The recently revised 5-5-2 launch schedule for CORONA will provide a modest schedule protection for up to about a twelve month delay in satisfactory  operations. The reduced CORONA launch schedule coupled with recent on-orbit technical difficulties will significantly reduce our percentage satisfaction of the stated USIB requirements for search coverage. The attached chart reflects our actual and projected CORONA performance against these requirements.

I believe, also, that we are seeing the effects of a waning interest and an inattention to detail often associated with the production close-out of a program. We have had a disturbing succession of difficulties with CORONA including one nearly complete failure (the March mission) and the current (July 23 launching) mission on which the aft camera has failed. We are taking every action possible to improve CORONA system reliability.



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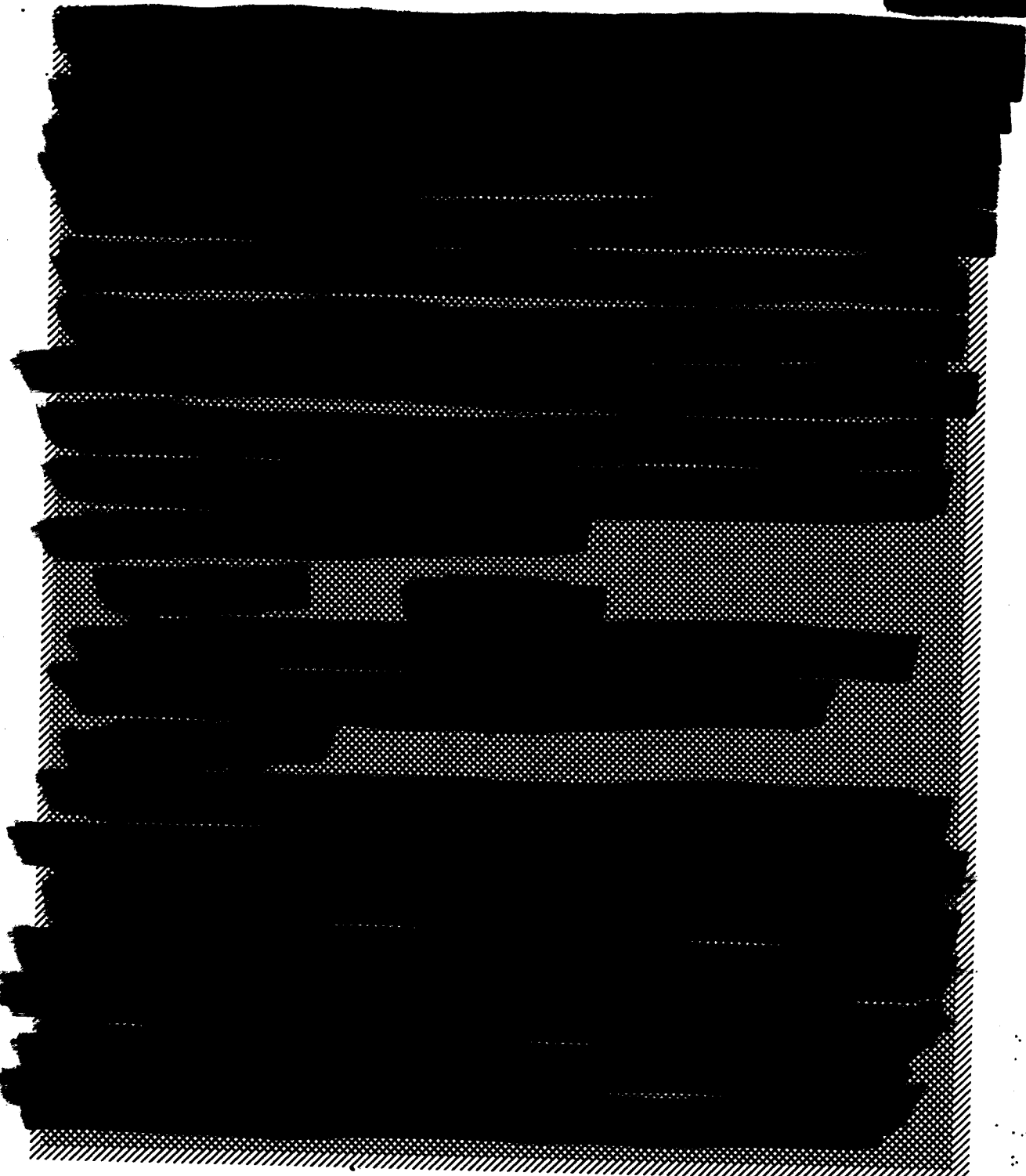
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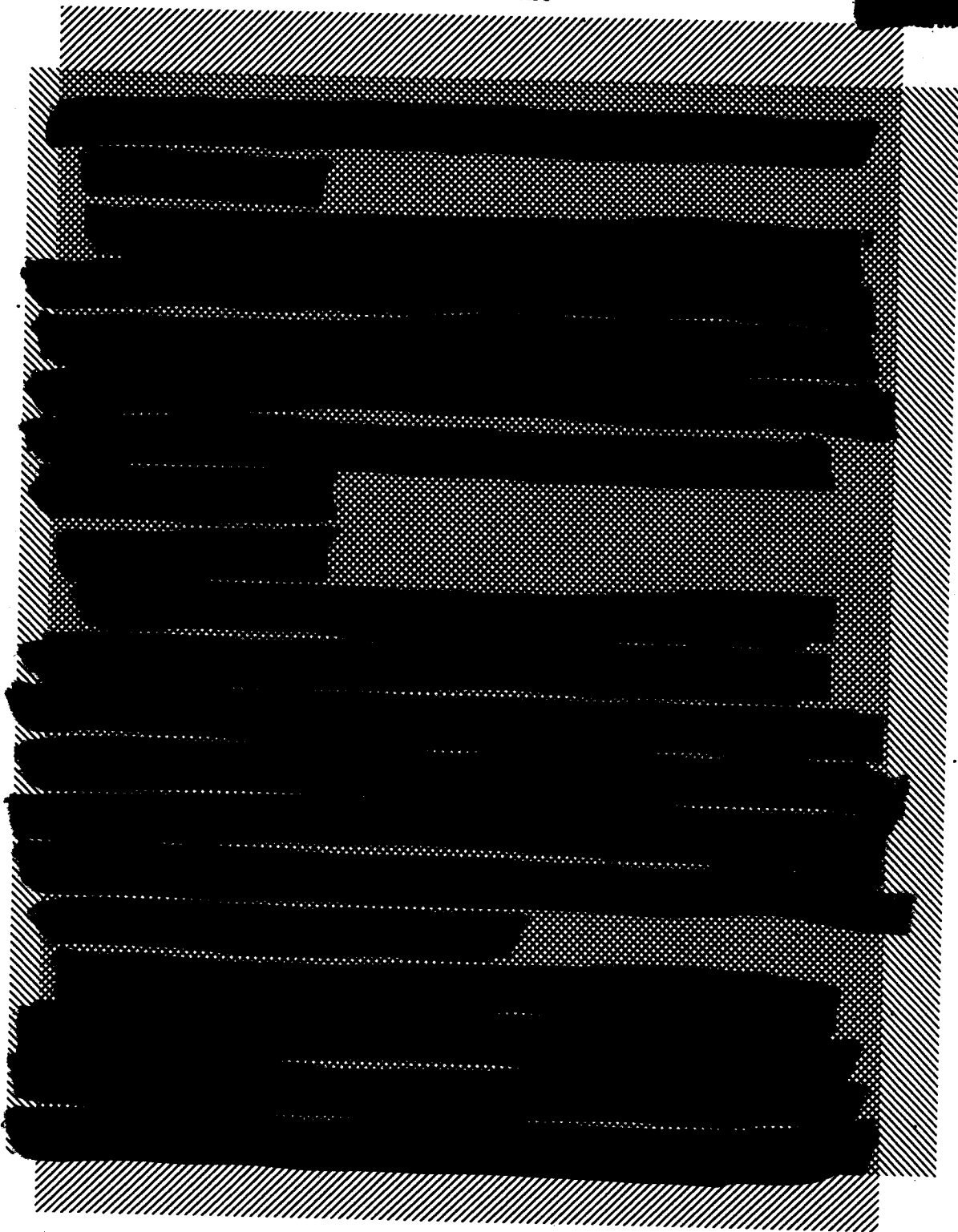


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PAGE 6 OF \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES



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PAGE 7 OF \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES

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R&D (Satellite)

Several of the exploratory R&D activities are reduced compared to previous years but there is an increase approved for readout technology. The interest in readout has caused us to focus our applied research activities on the critical components required for that potential system.

U-2 Aircraft

Following our June 20 discussion, a study of the U-2 program is being initiated. I am convinced that the program should proceed without major change for FY 1970 but will prepare recommendations for the FY 1971 program.

Advanced Aircraft

I have recommended against initiation of an advanced aircraft program. (A separate issue paper on this subject has been provided.) I am also recommending no further TAGBOARD drone procurement consistent with Executive Committee guidance. I have under consideration the possible inclusion within the NRP of the Air Force studies of an advanced subsonic drone. I believe this drone should be con-

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PAGE 8 OF \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES

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sidered in competition with other NRP programs. I plan to make the appropriate recommendations at a later date.

I recommend the approval of the FY 1970 base program as outlined in my paper for discussion on August 8. I have attached individual issue papers which discuss potential new and follow-on programs and a consolidated set of options for these programs.

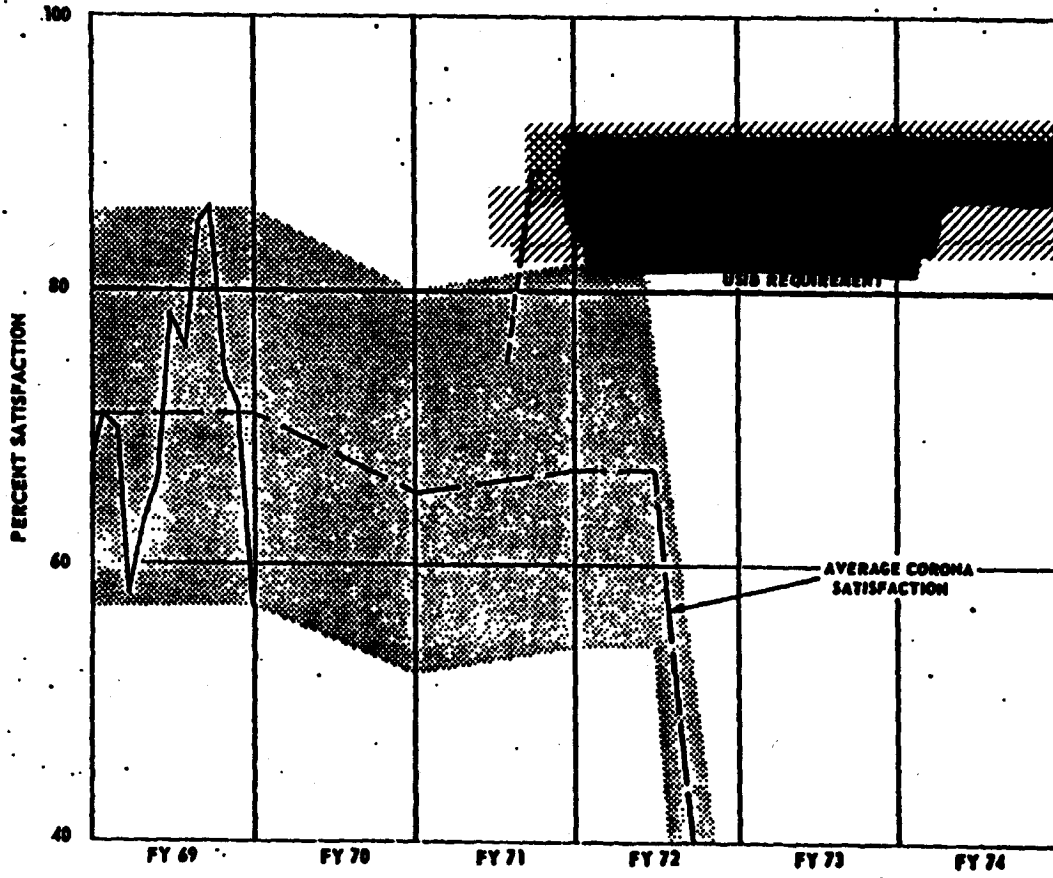


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SIX-MONTH SEARCH SATISFACTION



NRP PHOTOGRAPHIC SATELLITES

		JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
FY 70	CORONA	[REDACTED]											
FY 71	CORONA	[REDACTED]											
FY 72	CORONA	[REDACTED]											
FY 73	CORONA	[REDACTED]											
FY 74	CORONA	[REDACTED]											
		DAYS ON ORBIT											