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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE COMINT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

February 16, 1972

NOTE FOR COLONEL BRADBURN

I prepared and passed the attached paper to the ASD(I) shop on Thursday. They wanted a paragraph on each major intelligence program for Mr. Helms as background during his presentations to the "Watch Dog Committees" on March 5. I don't think we are telling Mr. Helms anything he doesn't already know, but it seems to fill a square in the ASD(I) shop.


FREDERICK L. HOFMANN
Lt Colonel, USAF

Fritz:

Good. Thanks.

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Jointly

~~1st~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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THE NRO STAFF

February 16, 1972

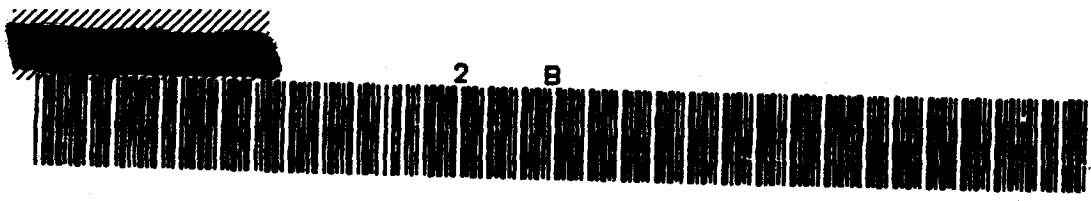
MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER HORNE

Attached at your request is a statement on the National Reconnaissance Program for use by Mr. Helms. Please call me if you need any further information.

[Redacted signature area]

FREDERICK L. HOFMANN
Lt Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director for
Plans and Policy

1 Attachment
Statement on NRP



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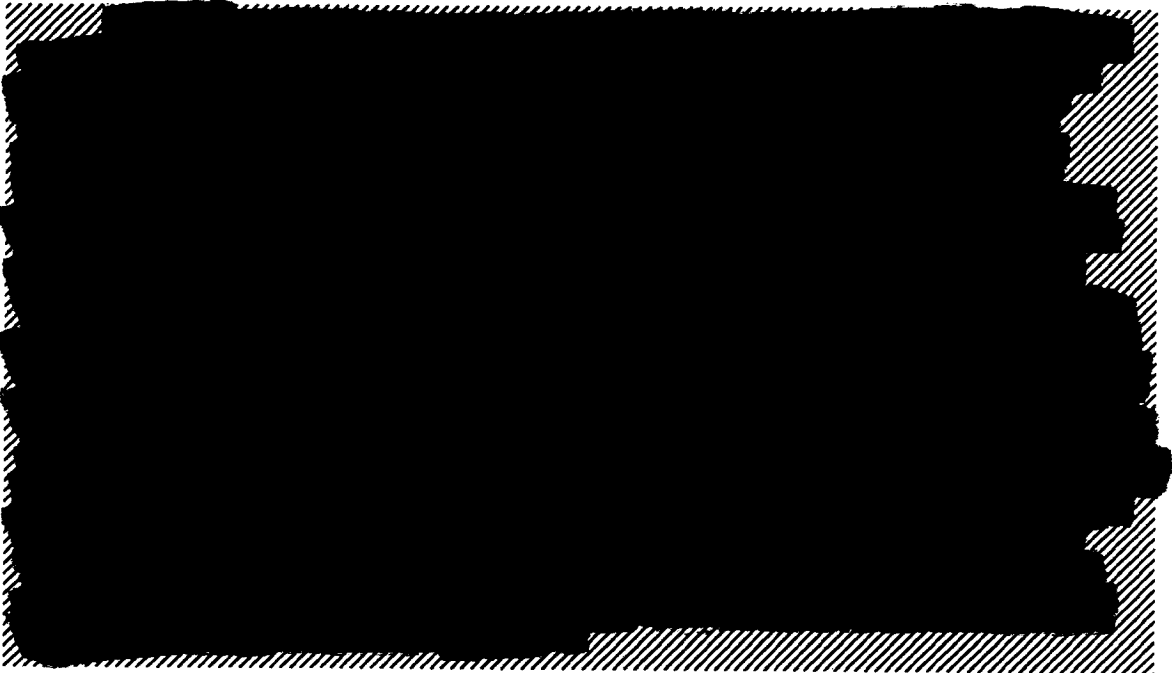
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THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM

The National Reconnaissance Program is a single, national program dedicated to the collection, through overflight, of intelligence to meet the needs and objectives of the United States Government. The Secretary of Defense is the Executive Agent for the Program, managing resources of the CIA and DOD in carrying out the mission. The entire Program is covert and comprises the development, management, and operation of overhead systems for photographic or electronic reconnaissance of denied areas of the world (peripheral reconnaissance is a separate responsibility managed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.) The National Reconnaissance Program is responsive directly and solely to the intelligence collection requirements and priorities established by the United States Intelligence Board.



Today the United States depends on the National Reconnaissance Program for most of its strategic information on closed societies.

