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NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

TELETYPE UNIT

THE NRO STAFF

17 September 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL SAPPINGTON, WSEG

SUBJECT: NRO Guidance and Assistance to WSEG in Study of WWMCCS Related R&D

Reference your letter, subject as above, TCS 95805/74.

I asked my Staff to determine the best source of information relating to R&D information and considered possibly significant to future developments by the NRO in support of its National Reconnaissance Program and that pertain to future WWMCCS capabilities.

In order to try to determine an overall balanced and coherent viewpoint of various technologies vis-a-vis sensors, communications, and data processing and other things, it appears that a possible approach would be for you to contact the Intelligence Research and Development Council, which is a permanent subcommittee of the Intelligence Resources Advisory Committee, and is chaired by Dr. Currie, DDR&E. The function of the Council is to explore new directions and techniques in those hard and soft sciences which hold promise for intelligence and which should receive program resource support and application. It is the Council's responsibility to maintain a continuing knowledge of the allocation and uses of R&D resources related to intelligence and to advise IRAC on R&D strategy and technology that will best contribute to the attainment of national intelligence objectives.

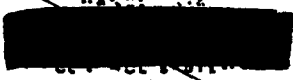
I suggest the above approach since the Council and Committee's responsibility are to focus full-time on resources and R&D, which is not the case for the NRO. We certainly place great emphasis on exploiting R&D technology and strategy but

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must also concern ourselves with the day-to-day operation, inter alia, of the NRP. Perhaps our referral to the Council, which should have a better overall perspective from an R&D standpoint, will be the most beneficial source of information to you. If it isn't the case, please let me know so that other arrangements may be considered.

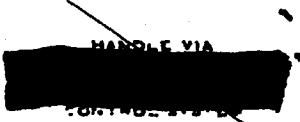
Finally, I would suggest that your specific requests seem to indicate a tendency toward NSA-related activities. For those type of activities, Gen Allen's people are, of course, the best source for that information. And the Defense Nuclear Agency could also be considered a source regarding nuclear aspects.

Please let me know how your effort proceeds. We would be pleased to answer specific questions you may develop during this phase of the study and look forward to reviewing the draft.



John

JOHN E. KULPA, JR.
Brigadier General, USAF
Director



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