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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

5 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. HALL, ASD(I)  
GENERAL GRAHAM, DIA

SUBJECT: Standing Committee on Space Policy

The current concern about the activities of Mr. Goodby, Chairman of the Space Policy Working Group, prompt me to provide you a chronology of important events that have led to Dr. Kissinger's establishing the subject committee. In the context that the issue was raised, I see little problem in Goodby's terms of reference except in Section IV, Alternative Options. The latter task can be eliminated by proper Committee action.

De [redacted]  
J. V. Plummer

Attachment  
Summary of Events

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SUMMARY OF EVENTS

- In December it was learned that NASA had issued an RFP on a high resolution pointable imager. This RFP would have required ~~TOP SECRET~~ technology. An NRO contractor brought the RFP to our attention. NASA was asked to withdraw the RFP.
- During the last week of December, Mr. Plummer discussed the technology problem with Secretary Schlesinger. Secretary Schlesinger voiced concern about the overall NASA technology movement.
- As a result of the dialogue with Secretary Schlesinger, a meeting was held at NASA on 24 January (TAB A). It was agreed that NASA, DOD, and CIA would initiate a dialogue to resolve issues.
- As a result of the 24 January meeting, a study was initiated and an outline was provided to NASA (TAB B).
- A breakfast meeting was held on 31 March to review two papers which resulted from the dialogue with NASA. The two papers were a Staff Analysis paper and a Memorandum of Agreement (TAB C).
- On 22 April, a second breakfast meeting was held to obtain final agreement on the Staff Analysis paper, a Memorandum of Agreement, Terms of Reference for an interagency study, and a Memorandum for Secretary Schlesinger's signature requesting the interagency study. Attending the 22 April meeting were: Mr. Walsh, Dr. Wade, Mr. Duckett, Dr. Low and Mr. Plummer. The meeting resulted in an agreed upon course of action with agreement to the wording of the various documents (TAB D).
- The two issues raised in the Staff Analysis paper were:
  - 1) the management coordination of technology and data and
  - 2) the political threat to the classified programs resulting from international challenge to the civil remote sensing from space. The first issue was to be resolved through the establishment of a Program Review Board by means of a Memorandum of Agreement. Organizations represented on the Board would be DDR&E, NASA, NRO and CIA. The SEASAT development by NASA was reviewed within this mechanism during the months of April and May in advance of the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement. The review process worked

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satisfactorily. The second issue, the political one, was to be addressed by means of an interagency review. The interagency review was requested by Deputy Secretary Clements on 21 May. This memorandum was staffed by OSD(ISA) (TAB E). Attached to TAB E are the Staff Analysis paper and the proposed Terms of Reference.

- On 15 July, after receiving concurrence of the Security Council and the State Department, Dr. Kissinger signed a memorandum which established a Standing Committee on Space Policy. This memo was provided to ASD(ISA) with information copies to ASD(I) and DDR&E on 17 July (TAB F). Assistant Secretary Ellsworth and DNRO Plummer were designated as DOD participants on the Committee.
- On 1 August, the Memorandum of Agreement for the management of data and technology was signed. ASD(I) reviewed this memo prior to its approval by Secretary Schlesinger (TAB G).
- On 15 August, the State Department initiated action to hold a meeting of the Space Policy Committee Working Group on 27 August (TAB H).
- A joint response to the first meeting was prepared and forwarded to the State Department on 4 September (TAB I).

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