

~~TOP SECRET~~

BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

June 19, 1970

Dear Dave:

The Navy has just forwarded to you the request for augmentation of the POPPY ground stations at a cost of \$6.1M (BYE 61524/70, dated June 11, 1970).

I am very encouraged about the possibilities of POPPY and POPPY type systems to help the Navy solve the ocean surveillance problem. I endorse this augmentation, and we intend to cooperate in the fullest. Funding is another matter, and my present position is that the financial support for this tactical application should be borne by the Navy. However, I would not like for funding difficulties to stand in the way of getting on with this capability. This is but one example of the application of NRO resources to broader problems, which leads me to believe that we should address this question in a somewhat larger context before making a final decision on funding.

Some comments concerning the funding are pertinent. Of the \$6,061K requested, this includes \$1,963K of military construction funds which the NRO could not fund. Personnel costs, recurring costs for construction and equipment maintenance, or other continuing costs were not addressed. Based on experience for supporting existing ground stations, it is estimated that the annual recurring cost for the proposed augmentation could be as high as \$3.8M/year for the ground station, plus about \$1.5M/year for 141 Navy personnel. This factor should be considered along with one-time costs.

Sincerely,

John L. McLucas

Honorable David Packard
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Room 3E 921, Pentagon
Washington, D.C.

~~EARPOP~~
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CONTROL SYSTEM

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