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~~US~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

February 1, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: POPPY Ground Site [REDACTED]

REFERENCE: Your memo, subject as above, dated 12 Jan 1971
OP-0923E/maw (BYE-66481-70)

In a memorandum to the Secretary of the Navy on 7 October 1970, I agreed that the Soviet threat warranted an augmentation of POPPY facilities to provide ocean surveillance support to the Navy. Our organizations are presently implementing these augmentations by expanding the facilities [REDACTED]. Additional facility expansion is planned [REDACTED] beginning in FY 72. Recently I directed my staff to take the necessary actions to provide the Navy, on a test and demonstration basis, ocean surveillance data from other NRP systems. Planning for this test is now underway.

In addition, I propose that the following areas be addressed before committing additional funds for an ocean surveillance capability [REDACTED]

- a. Determination of the Navy's over-all ocean surveillance requirement and a sensible mix of conventional to overhead systems.
- b. NRO evaluation of alternate feasible ocean surveillance systems.

I feel that with these steps we are moving toward an initial ocean surveillance capability, while at the same time devoting our efforts to a more thorough and longer range solution.

John L. McLucas
John L. McLucas

cc: Director, Program C

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BYE-12590-71
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