

24 Apr 1964

**TOP SECRET**

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, PROGRAM C

**SUBJECT: Feasibility Study on Security of POPPY Data**

Previous studies furnished by your office have indicated generally the low probability of intercept by the Soviets of the transponded POPPY data. However, in view of my responsibility for the security of all (S)NED programs and in the event that future operations call for additional data security, it is requested that Program C conduct a feasibility study directed toward possible downstream employment of data security systems.

The study should include the following group of options:

- a. Use on present POPPY configurations.
- b. Use on P-11 type configuration.
- c. Privacy or encipherment.
- d. Securing operations and data or data alone.

Consideration for each of the options should include, but not be restricted to:

- a. Minimum degradation of the data.
- b. Minimum band-width and power requirements.
- c. Cost estimates for development, procurement and operations.

It would be helpful if the study could be completed by 1 June 1964 so that, if needed, development of long lead-time items can be authorized.

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HANDLE VIA

Brockway McMillan  
 Director CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY  
 (S) National Reconnaissance Office

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