

~~TOP SECRET~~CONTROL NO. BYE 12656-69

1A

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EARPOP

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577/69

NRL B-00019-69~~TOP SECRET~~

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CONTROL SYSTEM~~ISI~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

~~TOP SECRET~~

March 7, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NRO PROGRAM C

SUBJECT: POPPY Digitizer for [ ] Ground Station

Your previous request within the FY-69 budget submission to convert the POPPY ground station at [ ] from an analog to a digital intercept facility was denied on the basis that there was insufficient justification.

As a result of the supporting arguments cited by your office and the National Security Agency in the reassessment of this request by the NRO Staff and the NRO Comptroller, I am satisfied that increased system effectiveness and overall long range economies will be achieved by the proposed conversion of [ ]. Accordingly, this authorizes you to proceed immediately with the procurement and installation of the [ ] digitizer, at an FY-1969 cost of \$395,000.

The NRO Comptroller will notify the Director, Program A, of this approval, and funds will be furnished in the normal manner.

*Alexander H. Flax*

Alexander H. Flax

*Margo<sup>(NSA)</sup> cite 392-9 DTG 182030Z March 69  
Provides \$427,000 of NSA funds to NRO for  
Purchase (in FY 69 - \$395,000) and installation  
(in FY 70 - 32,000)  
\$427,000 WCB*

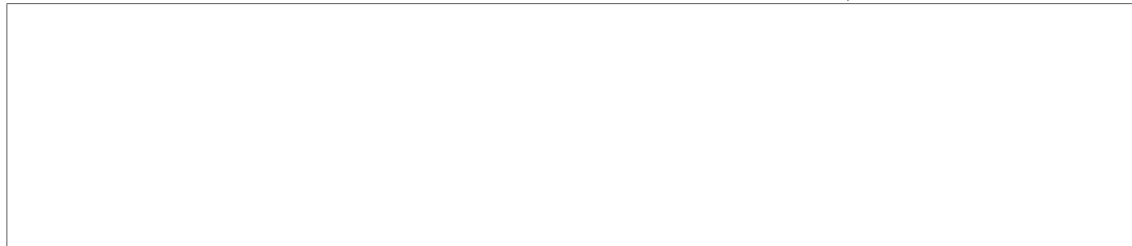
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1. What is the effect of an added digitizer at [ ] with regard to:

a. increased coverage

(1) geographic - no increase



b. priority of targets/value of target coverage - [ ] targets are bounded by an arc running from [ ] and include the [ ] areas.

c. accuracy of location [ ] - the digitizer will permit an accuracy improvement on the order of five-fold. The area of the 90% confidence ellipse will be reduced to one fifth of that obtained on an analog recording. [ ]

~~d.~~ time required on target - will be the same - the location will also be the same

e. time of response on targets of interest - we have no list of targets of interest - NAVINTCOM should provide

f. parameter measurement capability - the digitizing rate is 1 mc. The analog recording is based on a 50 kc clock, run at 1X.

g. data processing

(1) sorting by location - the location capability achieved by employment of a digitizer will give [ ] a specific target tip-off capability

(2) general processing - signal analysis at the site is considerably facilitated by a digital tape. The analog signal extraction is by [ ] NRI should have some additional input via HRB.

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h. SPASUR ephemeris is averaged over an orbit spacing correction period and is unusable during such periods. A real time ephemeris <sup>CALIBRATION</sup> ~~system~~ is to be employed on Mission 7106 which uses a beacon transmission from ground sites to the vehicle and back. The digitizer is an <sup>essential</sup> integral part of this system - it is the data recorder. This system will give precise slant ranges.

BEACON:  
(RETET)

2. Cost

- a. breakdown by FY - NRL provide

The analog recording uses only a part of the full capability of Mission 7106 and all future missions.

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SORS Dry Run: 9:30 @ NSG

Recommend that this meeting listen to  
[redacted] version of just why <sup>so much</sup> ~~such~~  
doubt seems to exist concerning the  
statement of Navy Capability... are  
we known for misstatements and  
careless advertisement concerning our  
Program? On the contrary I submit  
our statements have ~~been~~ been on  
the whole conservative and  
entirely factual. This is no  
Contractor Pitch bargaining  
or lobbying for a slice of a  
multimillion \$ pie. Rather a  
dedicated & highly motivated group  
with one common denominator...  
that of making POPPY (Program C)  
a more capable system.  
This

Hand V. a 134EMA  
in ~~COMPL~~ system only~~Top Secret~~