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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

25 February 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR [] EXECUTIVE SECRETARY,
SORS, USIB SIGINT COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Channels for SORS Papers

REFERENCE: SORS Memo, 15 Feb 74
(BYE-1219-74/SORS 29./4)

The mission guidance for SIGINT Mission 7340, which was attached to the above reference, does not require BYEMAN channel protection.

Generally, statements of collection guidance which identify target signals and related data should never require BYEMAN protection. Likewise, correlation of the guidance with TK mission descriptions should pose no problems. The TK mission numbers ("7000") and descriptions were designed to provide sufficient details to non-BYEMAN-indoctrinated individuals specifically for this and similar purposes.

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With regard to the potential for BYEMAN and TK files becoming available to TK-only-indoctrinated individuals, it is the responsibility of BCO's to insure that information and documentation do not become available to non-BYEMAN indoctrinated individuals. This area does not appear to be a problem.

While the NRO concurs in handling the mission guidance paper as submitted in TK channels, the use of BYEMAN project designators (TOP HAT, [] etc.) must be restricted to

BYE-12640/74

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~~EARPOP~~

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BYE-12640-74

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

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GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-
GORY 5B2 DECLASSIFY ON IMP DET.

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BYEMAN channels and may not be utilized in materials released to persons who do not hold BYEMAN access approvals. These project names may be used, of course, with those who hold both BYEMAN and TK approvals.

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Assistant for Security

~~EARPOP~~

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	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME	DATE	TIME	NAME & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE
C/Special Security Center						SS-3	
<i>Mr. Musza - Pls handle.</i>							

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Handle Via Indicated Controls

BYEMAN-TALENT-KEYHOLE-COMINT

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Access to this document will be restricted to those persons cleared for the specific projects;

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WARNING

This document contains information affecting the national security of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws U. S. Code Title 18, Sections 793, 794 and 798. The law prohibits its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person, as well as its use in any manner prejudicial to the safety or interest of the United States or for the benefit of any foreign government to the detriment of the United States. It is to be seen only by personnel especially indoctrinated and authorized to receive information in the designated control channels. Its security must be maintained in accordance with regulations pertaining to the BYEMAN-TALENT-KEYHOLE and Communications Intelligence Controls. No action is to be taken on any communications intelligence which may be contained herein, regardless of the advantage to be gained, if such action might have the effect of revealing the existence and nature of the source, unless such action is first approved by the appropriate authority.

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E2 IMPDET

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
SIGINT COMMITTEE

SIGINT OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN/TALENT-
KEYHOLE/COMINT CHANNELS JOINTLY

Copy /
BYE-1219-74
SORS 29./4
15 February 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: [] CHIEF, SPECIAL SECURITY CENTER

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SUBJECT: Channels for SORS Papers

1. I am attaching a mission guidance recommendation from the SORS to the Director, NRO, and Director, NSA. The SORS would like to have this mission guidance paper handled in TALENT-KEYHOLE Channels to assure adequate distribution to the analytic elements who assess the intercept data and the relationship to tasking in order to suggest possible changes in mission guidance to acquire additional data.

2. Most SORS mission guidance papers have designated the mission name, as TOP HAT 2, and have been handled in BYEMAN Channels. Recent mission descriptions provided by the NRO to the SORS for SIGINT satellite payloads have not revealed any operational characteristics (these are contained in a BYEMAN cover memo) nor have even indicated that the collectors are satellites. They are always referred to as "reconnaissance receiving and data systems". These descriptions are TK only.

3. I would appreciate it if you would review the attached guidance and give me an opinion if it can be handled within TALENT-KEYHOLE Channels without question. I am concerned that some operational capabilities can be ascertained from studying the mission guidance, such as "satellite conjunctions with Soviet NAVSATS over Northern Hemisphere ocean areas" and also the possibility that filing this mission guidance paper with other BYEMAN mission guidance papers may create an unnecessary chance for compromise of BYEMAN material if the files are

BYE-1219/74

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AND METHODS INVOLVED

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§ 5B(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) (one or more)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON
Impossible to determine
(unless impossible, insert date or event)

-1-
~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~
TOP SECRET

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN/TALENT-
KEYHOLE/COMINT CHANNELS JOINTLY

BYE-1219-74

passed to individuals with TALENT-KEYHOLE but not BYEMAN access. Granted that the TALENT-KEYHOLE system is designed to protect satellite reconnaissance, certain operational capabilities and other NRO program information are kept in BYEMAN Channels. Furthermore, for educational purposes the names "TOP HAT" and [REDACTED] are readily recognized at higher levels, but the mission numbers are not readily recognized.

4. I would appreciate your decision on the attached as soon as possible. If you concur in handling this paper within TALENT-KEYHOLE Channels, I would suggest that it would be quite useful and meaningful to the community if the satellite names, i.e., TOP HAT, [REDACTED] could be handled in TALENT-KEYHOLE Channels. My understanding is that specifying these spacecraft by name requires handling within BYEMAN Channels.

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[REDACTED]
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Attachment:
a/s

-2-

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

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**UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
SIGINT COMMITTEE**

SIGINT OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN/TALENT-
KEYHOLE/COMINT CHANNELS JOINTLY

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NO FOREIGN DISSEM
~~TOP SECRET~~ WORKING PAPERS

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN/TALENT-
KEYHOLE/COMINT CHANNELS JOINTLY

BYE-1219-74

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WORKING PAPERS

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