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AFVFD-RA						
		CLASSIFICATION	FILE DESIGNATION		XPD 68 02-59	

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(8) Ltr to SAC from AFVVO, subj: ACCFN, sup, 5 Aug 59, 1 cy.

TO:		INTERNAL ROUTING			
AFVVO 30DFZ		TO	DATE	TD	DATE
		1	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>28 Aug 59</i>	
		2	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>30 Sep 59</i>	
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			<i>[Signature]</i>		

~~SECRET~~

5 Aug 59

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Assignment of Operational Planning Responsibility

TO: ~~Commander-in-Chief~~
Strategic Air Command
Offutt AFB, Nebraska

1. ~~(SECRET)~~. The Strategic Air Command is designated as the Command responsible for operational planning for employment and control of the Advanced Reconnaissance Satellite System, WS 117-L ~~(SECRET)~~.

2. ~~(SECRET)~~. The Air Research and Development Command, in collaboration with the Strategic Air Command, will provide assistance, as necessary, to develop the capability to exploit the system to its fullest and at the earliest possible date.

3. ~~(SECRET)~~. It is recognized that during the research and development phase the Advanced Reconnaissance Satellite System will have operational potential; therefore, in addition to the above instructions, the Strategic Air Command will be responsible for processing data obtained from all reconnaissance satellites and for providing information and data necessary to the continued development and improvement of the ~~SECRET~~ system.

4. ~~(SECRET)~~. In consideration of current national policies regarding the use of space the following basic classification criteria is established with respect to the Advanced Reconnaissance Satellite System, WS 117-L ~~(SECRET)~~.

a. The specific purpose and effectiveness of reconnaissance satellites will be classified TOP SECRET.

b. Strategic Air Command association for operational planning and employment purposes will be classified SECRET.

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO ARDC - INFO CY OF ARDC LETTER SENT TO AFMAG

Coord cy - IPT-PL-SF
Cyc of 3gr cy - AFCCS
Info cy - AFCCS
File cy - AFCCV
Info cy - AFEDAT
Info cy - AFOOP

#169

~~SECRET~~

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Ltr to SAC, subj: (Unclassified) Assignment of Operational Planning Responsibility (Cont)

c. Strategic Air Command activities reflecting programming, mission control, receipt of data, data processing, or dissemination of data will be classified ~~SECRET~~.

d. Operational readiness or capability data will be classified ~~SECRET~~.

e. All other research and development or planning activities leading toward the development of an operational reconnaissance satellite capability and command assignment will be classified ~~SECRET~~ in accordance with the NS 117-1 Classification Guide, AFPM, dated 15 March 1959.

f. Dissemination and/or distribution of information relating to the program will be limited to those individuals having an official need to know and who contribute directly to the support of the program. Release of information through public resources will be in accordance with existing policies and directives.

5. (UNCLASSIFIED). All previous instructions contrary to these are hereby rescinded.

6. (UNCLASSIFIED). An identical letter has been forwarded to the Air Research and Development Command.

7. (UNCLASSIFIED). This letter is classified ~~SECRET~~ because it pertains to a program of vital importance to the National Defense.

UNCLASSIFIED

SA

SECRET

5/ Curtis E. Le May
General, US Air Force
Vice Chief of Staff

~~SECRET~~