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Copy No. ~~[REDACTED]~~

13 OCT 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: DOD Proposal for Further Development of Satellite Mapping Camera

REFERENCE: DD R&E (DOD) Letter for DCI Re Above Subject: ~~[REDACTED]~~ dated 11 September 1964

1. It is our understanding that your Directorate is evaluating the technical aspects of Dr. Fubini's proposal in the reference regarding research and development of an improved satellite mapping camera. Inasmuch as the proposal also has important implications on the intelligence side, we are prompted to pass along our comments about it for your possible use in responding to the letter.

2. From the intelligence point of view, we concur in the ultimate objective of the proposal: a global catalogue of high quality overhead photography that is adequate for mapping as well as other intelligence purposes. It would be extremely valuable in our view to collect on a world-wide, virtually simultaneous basis, comparable data on all cities, transportation routes, terrain areas, industries, military installations, ports, and other essential intelligence subjects. The rapid-mapping programs which could be generated from this data base would represent a significant advance to our overall intelligence research and production efforts.

3. We wish to emphasize, however, that the DOD does not have an exclusive interest in the project described by Dr. Fubini. This fact which is not fully understood in the DOD and DIA may be illustrated by citing past DIA efforts in the COMOP to remove ARGON from USIB cognizance and reserve it solely to DOD jurisdiction. Mutuality of CIA and DOD interest

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in this regard is exemplified by the joint CIA-AMS (DIA) program for production of all-source and KEYHOLE-sanitized photo maps of Sino-Soviet Bloc areas at medium and large scales.

4. With respect to specific CIA intelligence needs for mapping of Latin America, Africa and Southeast Asia, we believe that the program envisioned by the DOD would benefit CIA intelligence analysis and interpretation that is conducted in support of the following:

a. Operations. There is an increasing demand for geographic intelligence research and production in support of clandestine operational planning on non-Communist countries. A high order of precision and completeness is required in this effort. We are seriously handicapped and important U.S. objectives are endangered, therefore, by the normally poor data base available to our researchers for this work.

b. Estimates and Policy Requirements. Broadening U.S. commitments in non-Communist areas has increased the need for original studies of environmental factors in support of policy formulation and estimates. In most cases, we are able to satisfy them only incompletely and with considerable difficulty.

c. Maps for Counterinsurgency. A rapid capability to produce accurate topographic maps contributes materially to U.S. programs in support of friendly government actions against Communist-inspired guerrilla operations.

d. National Intelligence Survey Program. Acquisition of the global data indicated in Dr. Pubini's letter would improve our abilities to produce up-to-date base and substantive maps in support of the NIS program.

5. It is unrealistic, however, to look at this project solely from the standpoint of obtaining data, primarily for mapping purposes. As you know, our satellite reconnaissance resources are not limitless. We must determine, therefore, how much of an impact this project would have on our

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efforts to collect critical information on the military capabilities of the USSR and Communist China. We believe that, if this project is deemed technically feasible, it should be handled, like the ARGON program, in the COMOR/USIB mechanism where any conflicts or competition in community intelligence needs can be resolved.

6. As suggested in discussions with your staff on this matter, we are transmitting these views for your consideration and for possible inclusion in a final response to Dr. Fubini's letter.

*[Signature]*  
[REDACTED]  
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

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