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To Gen Berg

11 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD *JAC*

SUBJECT: ARGO Steering Committee Meeting 10 June 1968

This is the first meeting of the ARGO Steering Committee since the original ARGO Report was published. The committee is chaired by Dr. Steininger, Technical Assistant, Office of Science and Technology, EOB, Remainder of committee is made up of the following:

- DOD - Colonel Rall
- CIA - Mr. Tidwell
- NPIC -
- NASA - Mr. Leonard Jaffee
- OEP - Mr. Harry Mahlum
- AID - Mr. Kenneth F. Vernon
- USGS - Mr. John De Noyer
- ESSA - Mr. David Johnson
- D/Transp - Mr. James S. Jordan
- AGRICUL. - Mr. Arch Park

Dr. Steininger reported that ARGO report had been presented to the President, and he has agreed to use of ARGO Steering Committee to determine requirements of Civil Agencies for Satellite Photography. Dr. Steininger then outlined what he considered the Charter of the Committee to be:

1. Collect and consolidate needs of each of the agencies for satellite photography
2. Make needs known to the Intelligence Community.
3. Work out procedures with the Intelligence Community to make materials available to various government agencies.

The agencies will be responsible for establishing requirements or needs. This will not be a function of the Committee. General discussion was held as to the most

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promising uses Satellite Photography would be for the civil agencies. From this discussion it emerged that the Department of Agriculture and AID were interested in foreign crop production and distribution (acreage). This appears to be a rather easily coordinated requirement with the Intelligence Community since AID and Agriculture both stated ample records and data are available on all areas of the world except the Sino-Soviet Bloc. Mr. Tidwell prophesied if this was a major area of interest, coverage would not be too difficult to obtain. AID also stated that they hoped to use Satellite Photography for some population estimated work; however, they stated this needed more investigation.

The Department of Interior (USGS) stated that their mission for mapping was confined to the continental U.S., its possessions, and territories. They envisioned use of Satellite Photography for map revision and estuary mapping. They did not consider current Satellite Photography to be capable of supporting base compilation (new mapping in scales of 1 - 24,000). At this point Mr. Jaffee of NASA was visibly shaken. He asked about mapping outside of the confines of the U.S., and was told by Interior that this was the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers, U.S.A., and that the only mapping the Interior had done was in conjunction with the AID program in under-developed areas of the world, and these were actually done in coordination with the Army. At this point the AID representatives made the statement that they could no longer afford to do base mapping and that areas of the world which have been of interest to them was constantly being reduced in size because of the change in policy and an acute shortage of funds. At this point Mr. Jaffee was visibly sick and stated that NASA would have no further comment on the ARGO Program until they could study its effect on the Earth Resources Program.

Mr. Tidwell explained to the group how the Intelligence Community established requirements and had them approved and what his role in this was. He also told the Steering Group about recent Bi-Spectral Experiments and offered to make this material available to them including material taken over the Bloc. He also told

the Steering Group that there were some efforts being made by members of this Agency to have each of the users pay for the % of mission used to meet his requirements, i.e., cost/ft. of film. Mr. Tidwell stated he was opposed to this but did not know what final outcome would be.

ESSA stated that their primary requirement for Satellite Photography appeared to be in the field of Hydrology (snow-cover) and Sea Ice Surveys. They stated Oceanography would have to wait (or should wait) until Multi-Spectral Sensors are developed. OEP stated their major requirement was for City coverage by KH-4. They stated NPIC is currently mosaicing 60 cities in the U.S. for them and has 60 or 70 more to do. These city plans are kept at Ft. Richie at the National Emergency Headquarters.

Dr. Steininger, at this point, stated he felt the best way to proceed in the future, was for the Committee to publish a series of papers on proposed studies, Pilot Program, etc. Initially, he envisioned the following papers over the next two-three months:

1. Crop Assessment and Population Studies - AID
2. Snow Coverage and Estuary Mapping - ESSA
3. Geography and Map Revision - USGS
4. City Coverage - OEP
5. Basic Mapping - Delineation of Countries of Interest - AID in Coordination with DOD
6. Sea Ice Surveillance - ESSA

Dr. Steininger fixed the next meeting at 1000 hours, 10 July 1968, at the Executive Office Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.


WILLIAM E. WILLIAMSON
LtColonel, U.S.A.

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