

~~TOP SECRET~~

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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

September 6, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL WORTHINGTON, HQ AFSC

SUBJECT: Deputy Secretary of Defense Directive on DOD Satellite-Borne Earth Sensing Activities

You will recall our review, in early 1965, of NASA activities that were impinging upon the National Reconnaissance Program and our concern that the military departments were expressing requirements to the NASA or were proposing activities to be conducted by (or jointly with) the NASA, that properly fell within the scope of the NRP. As a result of our findings, Mr. Vance directed on August 30, 1965, that all agencies deal exclusively with the National Reconnaissance Office on all DOD needs for study, development, test, or use of satellite-borne image-forming earth sensors. The NRO was also designated the DOD point of contact with the NASA, as well as other governmental agencies, with regard to these activities.

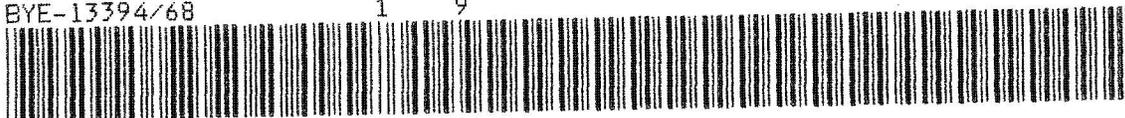
Until recently, we had no major problems on the coordination of activities in this area. During the Spring of this year, however, we received several high-level civil and governmental complaints about the imposition of the requirement for an unprecedented DOD security review of all papers to be presented at a symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment organized by the University of Michigan, and sponsored by the Office of Naval Research.

While the Vance memorandum covered DOD activities involving study, development, test or use of satellite-borne earth sensors, it did not specifically require the coordination of symposia or papers for symposia; and, hence, did not legitimize our review of such activity. To correct this situation we have, in collaboration with the DDR&E, updated the Vance memorandum to:

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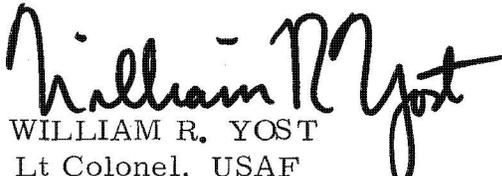
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1. broaden the scope from "satellite-borne image-forming earth sensors" to "satellite-borne earth sensors" to insure that we get a look at everything.
2. broaden the scope by defining "activity" to include "feasibility studies, potential application studies, plans for symposia and conferences, and papers and presentations on this subject area."

Mr. Nitze has signed such a memorandum in both a BYEMAN and a paraphrased TOP SECRET version. Copies are attached for your information.

We consider the new memorandum to cover the entire area of our security interest.

We would appreciate your making sure that General Ferguson sees the Nitze memorandum.


WILLIAM R. YOST
Lt Colonel, USAF
Asst Deputy Director for
Plans & Policy

Attachments

1. BYE78268-68
2. DS 68-8377 (TS)

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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301



23 AUG 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Satellite-Borne Earth Sensing
Activities

REFERENCES: (1) DOD Directive TS 5105.23
(2) NRO Directive TS BYE 52740

This memorandum replaces TOP SECRET BYEMAN memorandum, BYE 5725-65, from the Deputy Secretary of Defense to the Service Secretaries, "Department of Defense Needs for Earth Sensing from Satellites," dated August 30, 1965.

To insure that all Department of Defense efforts involving the use of satellite-borne earth sensors are dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the referenced directives, all agencies must deal with the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) on all such activity. "Activity" is defined to include feasibility studies, potential application studies, developments, tests, uses, plans for symposia and conferences, and papers and presentations on this subject area. The NRO will refer specific requirements for collection to the DIA for submission to the United States Intelligence Board.

In addition the National Reconnaissance Office is designated as the DOD point of contact with NASA, as well as with other government agencies, with regard to satellite-borne earth sensing matters. Any DOD participation in NASA earth sensing activities will be conducted in accordance with the instructions contained in reference (2).

Since the security level of this memorandum restricts its disclosure, I have attached a paraphrased version which may be used for limited distribution within the department.

WORKING PAPERS

Paul H. Nitze

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