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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

15 January 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: SOC Functional Responsibilities

Problem.

To define the SOC mission related responsibilities.

Background.

On 10 January 1968, at a meeting in the DNRO's office with Mr. Duckett, Generals Martin and Berg, the DNRO directed the submission of a letter defining the SOC responsibilities to him by 15 January 1968. If approved, the letter would be submitted to Mr. Duckett and General Martin for review and comment.

Discussion.

The SOC responsibilities are generally understood and agreed upon by both the SPD and the SSPO. Assignment of functions to implement the SOC responsibilities has caused considerable concern by both the SPD and the SSPO. In fact, I view the procurement of resources to equip the SOC to perform its responsibilities on-site rather than delegate them to support agencies as the heart of the present controversy, i.e., the necessity for two large computers physically located in the SOC when both the SPD and the SSPO resources provide timely and adequate support to the SOC.

The SSPO, SPD and AFSCF have amassed substantial computer resources as each program has matured. All currently provide priority computer support to SOC. Now, both the SPD and the SSPO insist that each be assigned the function of providing the SOC computer support for the HEXAGON program. This request is consistent with past CORONA and GAMBIT management philosophy.

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In anticipation of the extensive computer and software support to the SOC for the HEXAGON program, both the SPD and SSPO have programmed adequate support to fulfill SOC's responsibilities. Although the SPD and SSPO computer resources are geographically located 2200 and 17 miles distance from the SOC, both provide timely and adequate support. The SOC works harmoniously and effectively with both support agencies, and will continue to do so in the future, regardless of which organization is assigned the computer support function for the HEXAGON program.

Recommendation.

Recommend that you sign the attached letters defining the SOC responsibilities to General Martin and Mr. Duckett.

EDWIN F. SWEENEY
Colonel, USAF

Attachments

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