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~~SECRET~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF

January 24, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL BERG

SUBJECT: Range Ship Support

You will recall that in September 1968 General Martin expressed concern about the current and projected use of the Surface Recovery Units, Sunnyvale and Longview. (Tab A) As a consequence of your discussions with DDR&E, the ships were retained and funded in the AFSCF Program Element.

Subsequently, we requested General King to sign a letter to AFWTR giving SAFSP more direct control of the scheduling, operation and maintenance of the SRUs. General King was reluctant to sign the letter, and it was then submitted to General Cooper and later General Huston. It was our understanding that General Huston would not direct AFWTR to respond in the manner we requested.

On January 22, I called [redacted] (General Huston's deputy) to determine if the traffic would bear a personal visit to General Huston on the subject of range ships. [redacted] stated that General Huston had personally rewritten our letter and signed it out on December 9. (Tab B)

I called [redacted] to determine if they considered General Huston's letter to be a satisfactory response to their stated concerns. After discussing it with General Martin, [redacted] called and stated that SAFSP considered the problem solved to their satisfaction.

No further action is indicated.

John R. Meceda
JOHN R. MECEDA
Captain, USAF

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SCO

9 December 1968

USNS Sunnyvale and Longview

AFWTR (WTG)

1. Recently, some concern has been expressed regarding the availability of the USNS Sunnyvale and Longview to support surface recovery activities. These discussions indicated a dissatisfaction with the degree of support being provided to the recovery activities since that is the primary mission of these ships.
2. As you know, these ships have supported the programs under the management of the Director of Special Projects, OSAF (SAFSP). Although there had been some question concerning the desirability of retaining these ships in service, DDR&E and SAFRD have directed their retention in an active status with the AFSCF having funding responsibility. The operation and control will continue to be an AFWTR responsibility, but primary mission responsibility will continue to be support of SAFSP programs. It is imperative that SAFSP be supported to the maximum in accordance with their requirements. These ships should not be used for other general range purposes except on a non-interference basis with SAFSP programs.

FOR THE COMMANDER

SIGNED

VINCENT G. HUSTON
Major General, USAF
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