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WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 27, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with David Packard, 27 May 1969

A. MOL.

We did not discuss this issue, except under Item I. ^F

B. Drones.

I showed him the letter to Laird and he said he agreed with the letter, provided we maintained close coordination with Gardiner Tucker. I told him we were doing this. He expressed doubt about the need for the EC-121s and hence some doubt about the need for a replacement. I told him that there was no doubt in the minds of the people who were flying the EC-121s that they were going to continue to fly many missions of this type, and I wanted to have the option to cover this with an unmanned capability. He did not disagree.

C. Saving Money.

I told him about the need to do some development of relay satellites, which would reduce the manpower requirements overseas. For example, (1) we could use them to eliminate the 949 station in Australia, (2) we could use them for relaying from the real time readout satellite program and (3) we could use them to take many people out of He agreed that all these were interesting applications and that we ought to go ahead with the program. We did not discuss funding.

D. I referred to the question of whether we should buy additional CORONAs so as not to be under pressure to hold to the schedule of the HEXAGON at no matter what cost. I told him that the HEXAGON was showing something like a \$40 million deficit between what was budgeted a few months ago and what

HEXAGON/CORONA

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they now claim they need, and that this money would be sufficient to buy three CORONAs which would then take the heat off the HEXAGON program for another year or so. He thought that we should keep this program under close surveillance and make sure we reorder in time (or at least we have a very thorough review) before we decide that there is no need for a reorder.

E. Letter from Congressman George Brown on MOL.

I told him I would call Congressman Brown and talk to him and give him a briefing of some sort. In retrospect, I think I better also call Chairman Miller of the Space and Astronautics Committee.



John L. McLucas

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