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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

November 18, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PACKARD
MR. HELMS
DR. DuBRIDGE

SUBJECT: Preparation for ExCom Meeting of November 25, 1969

The NRO has forwarded to you the regular financial report and issue sheets for the November 25 meeting.

To aid the ExCom in making decisions on the program priorities and to establish overall funding levels, I believe that this more detailed report will be useful. Similar reports will be submitted in the future as necessary.

Since the August 15 ExCom meeting, several severe budget restrictions have been imposed within the Department of Defense generally, notably in connection with the 703 exercise. I do not believe that the NRP, important as it is, can or should escape the serious scrutiny which all defense-related programs are now receiving. The subject/issue papers which you have already received are drawn up in such a way that the ExCom can readily establish a program at any of the levels

To improve the ability of the NRO to carry out its job of developing and managing systems which will fulfill the intelligence needs of the government within its area of assigned responsibility, we have established an Analysis Group within the staff of our Office of Space Systems. This group will conduct analyses of proposed new systems, the relative efficiency of ongoing systems in fulfilling requirements, and will make recommendations with respect to program planning. Its work will be augmented by ad hoc efforts or studies using outside consultants.

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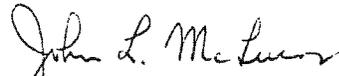
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We feel strongly the need for this type of dedicated analytical capability. Of course our office will continue working closely with the President's Science Advisor's Panel on NRP Matters.

Comments on how to make this report more useful will be appreciated.


John L. McLucas

Attachment

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