MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: Decontrol and Downgrading of Satellite Photography

Would you be good enough to look this over and see if we have written what you prefer on the subject of "Decontrol." General Berg and Colonel Worthman are satisfied.

James Q. Reber

Attachments
Ltr to Mr. Helms
USIB-D-41.12/28
Dear Dick:

Let me refer to the document on "Decontrol and Downgrading of Satellite Photography" (USIB-D-41.12/28) which is currently distributed to the Board for its concurrence. Jim Reber has told me of his discussion with you on that subject.

If this paper is approved with its provision for treating the fact of satellite photographic reconnaissance at no higher than the SECRET classification, it will have an impact on the BYEMAN Security Control System the extent of which we are currently exploring as well as what actions must be taken with regard to that System. In this we expect to work closely with COMIREX as it develops the procedures for carrying out this decision.

I would like to suggest for consideration that the new Presidential Directive, a draft of which was circulated with the subject paper, include some statement to the effect that it is national policy that the fact of such a program is not to be discussed publicly by officers of the United States Government.

Sincerely,

Alexander H. Flax

Honorable Richard Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.