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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

19 September 1967

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The Honorable Alexander Flax
Director, National Reconnaissance Office
Department of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Dear Al:

On 23 February 1967 you forwarded to me a report prepared by a group convened under your auspices to study and recommend security criteria for NRP equipment which might be made available to NASA. This report was undertaken in response to Recommendation #7 of the NSAM 156 Ad Hoc Committee's report of 11 July 1966 and you will recall that I delayed taking action with respect to the report of your group because of possible conflict with a proposed NASA program to use a GAMBIT camera in earth orbit. In light of your letter of 22 August 1967 advising of NASA's action to terminate this particular program, I hereby approve the findings and recommendations of the report transmitted by your letter of 23 February 1967 and believe that this report should be used as a basis for NRO dealings with NASA on equipment and technology. I am sending a copy of the report to the Chairman of the NSAM 156 Ad Hoc Committee and to each member.

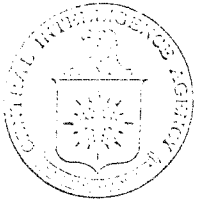
Sincerely,

Richard Helms
Director

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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The Honorable Foy D. Kohler
Deputy Under Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Foy:

Recommendation #7 of the NSAM 156 Ad Hoc Committee report of 11 July 1966 recommended that: "The Director of Central Intelligence, in consultation with the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office, should review and establish appropriate security restrictions on cameras and other sensing apparatus and equipment which can be made available for NASA's program of non-military applications of satellite earth-sensing. It is recognized that substantial compartmentalization will probably have to remain, but the non-military programs should be enabled to profit from relevant achievements of the military program to the extent feasible." In response to this recommendation a small group of experts was convened by Dr. Flax and has completed a report containing findings and recommendations which I have approved. I am attaching a copy of this report and expect that it will be used as a basis for NRO dealings with NASA on equipment and technology in line with Recommendation #7 noted above.

Cordially,

[s] Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

Attachment: BYE #52042-67

cc: Dr. Seamans, NASA w/att, cy 1, Series B
Mr. Warnke, DOD w/att, cy 2, Series B
Dr. Flax, NRO w/o att
Mr. Fisher, ACDA w/att, cy 3, Series B
Mr. Sheldon, CIA w/o att
Mr. Keeny, White House w/att, cy 4, Series B
Mr. Johnson, White House w/att, cy 5, Series B
Mr. Welsh, NASC w/att, cy 6, Series B

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