

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SPACE  
SYSTEMS ALUMNI/ALUMNAE

SUBJECT: SAFSS Declassification

I am pleased to announce the declassification of the "fact of" and certain "facts about" the association of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) with Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Space Systems (SAFSS), and its predecessor Office of Missile and Satellite Systems (SAFMSS). We are now able to acknowledge the contributions of those who have served in SAFSS/SAFMSS in support of the NRO as well as support to the senior leadership of the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. This letter is intended to provide alumni/alumnae with broad guidance on the scope and limits of this declassification.

The following "facts about" the association of SAFSS and the NRO are declassified:

- The association between the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) and the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Space Systems (SAFSS) and its predecessor, the Air Force Office of Missile and Satellite Systems (SAFMSS).
- Fact that SAFSS and its predecessor SAFMSS was the staff element of the NRO and performed staff functions for the Director and Deputy Director of the NRO.
- Fact that personnel assigned to SAFSS and SAFMSS provided support to the Secretary, Under Secretary, and Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Space) on aircraft reconnaissance and space reconnaissance systems.
- Identification of main organizational elements of SAFSS and SAFMSS, e.g., SS-1, SS-2, etc.
- Identities of all former SAFSS and SAFMSS Directors and key SAFSS and SAFMSS personnel assigned to the major staff offices and elements of SAFSS and its predecessor SAFMSS, such as chiefs of the key divisions, comptroller, technical advisor, etc.
- Fact of individual assignment to SAFSS and SAFMSS (from 1961 to April 1995) including unclassified duty and staff title, generic description duties (i.e. engineering,

technology, comptroller, security, administration, etc.), and period of performance.

- Fact of and individual's assignment to SAFSS and SAFMSS at only the following locations: Los Angeles Air Force Base, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Satellite Control Facility, Sunnyvale, and the Pentagon.
- General association of SAFSS with CORONA, ARGON, LANYARD, and GRAB.
- General description of SAFSS operations and support functions not associated with currently classified NRO information.

If you have questions please contact NRO Security at

If you receive requests for interviews, information, or reviews of articles, papers, books, etc. from media, academics, or historians concerning the NRO, we strongly urge you to contact NRO Security so we can assist you with your response.

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Keith R. Hall  
Assistant Secretary of the  
Air Force (Space)