

~~TOP SECRET~~

VRO-A-6A

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CONTROL SYSTEM

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DECLASSIFIED ON: 1 OCTOBER 2012
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

16 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, CIA RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAMS

SUBJECT: Outstanding Contribution of HEXAGON

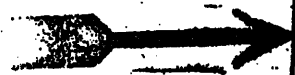
On July 1, management of the HEXAGON sensor program will be transferred from CIA to the Air Force. I want to take this occasion to recognize the leadership, foresight and dedication to the preservation of the National security displayed by you and your office in the design, development and initial operation of this extremely important photo-reconnaissance satellite.

Before the first flight, there were many who felt that HEXAGON was too complex an undertaking to be successful. The nearly flawless operation of the first flight vehicle dispelled these doubts and again confirmed the excellence of the work done under your leadership. Each subsequent flight of HEXAGON has outperformed its predecessor.

Because public recognition of this major contribution is not possible and because so many unsung individuals have worked so diligently to make HEXAGON successful, I would appreciate your extending my sincere compliments and those of the Secretary of Defense to your people as we recognize an outstanding example of "a job well done."

John L. McLucas
John L. McLucas

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BYE-12732-73
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HEXAGON
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WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
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