

~~TOP SECRET~~

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

Approved for HC

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

File

HC
not
w

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

March 1, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Study of Requirements for Image-Forming Satellite
Reconnaissance Responsive to Warning/Indications
Needs

This is in response to your memorandum of February 14, 1968, on the above subject.

We are proceeding immediately to comply with your request for an evaluation of the feasibility and estimated cost of a collection system meeting the objectives outlined in USIB-D-46.4/3, dated January 5, 1968. However, as I am sure you recognize, the technology to devise economically feasible systems for continuous coverage meeting Warning/Indications requirements is not entirely in hand. There are several research and development efforts being conducted under NRO auspices which give promise of making possible cost/effective systems of this kind at some future time, but we do not have a high degree of confidence at this time in our ability to estimate costs, schedule and performance for these systems.

Our plan is to provide the evaluation you have requested for both near-term and long-term alternatives, specifying in each case our confidence level on the projected performance, cost, and schedule on the basis of the current state of the art of the needed technology.

We will endeavor to complete the evaluation within ninety days as you have requested. However, with your approval, I will ask my staff to confer with the COMIREX during the course of our study in order to insure the best possible mutual understanding of the scope and objectives of the evaluation.

Alexander H. Flax

Alexander H. Flax

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~TOP SECRET~~
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION
DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

CONTROL NO. BYE-12693-68
COPY 3 OF 4 COPIES
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

Series B