12 May 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: The Comments on Land Panel Recommendations Pertinent to a Readout Satellite System

1. I heartily endorse the conclusions and in general support the recommendations that the Land Panel has made concerning a readout system that can make information available to the interpretation community via relay satellite within the time span

2. Following are comments which I believe should be considered in such decision-making discussions as may be forthcoming:

   a. It is important that any readout system have the capability to acquire imagery of almost any specified point within the Sino-Soviet area on a daily basis. This is implied by Dr. Land in his description of capabilities but is not stated directly.

   b. In order to have maximum chance of achieving savings across the whole spectrum of intelligence collection, the system that is developed should be capable of responding to warning/indications requirements, crisis needs (as described by Dr. Land), world-wide surveillance of such targets as may be required by theater or naval commanders, and routine day-to-day needs for imagery of Bloc targets.
The latter can be considered the bread-and-butter reason for a _______ system and perhaps ultimately would prove to be the truly great step forward. Because I believe a _______ system should have these multi-purpose capabilities, I feel that a go-ahead decision should include careful consideration of ways and means of incorporating characteristics which would enable it to replace other reconnaissance assets and not merely become an "add-on".

3. While the comments expressed above are my own, insofar as they pertain to intelligence requirements, they parallel closely the views of COMIREX.

William A. Tidwell
Chairman
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation
TO: Jack
FROM: Ed

DATE: 13 May 69

SUBJECT: Tidwell's Comments on Land Panel Recommendations on

REMARKS:

Attached are Tidwell's comments on the recommendations from the Land Panel.

Bill goes somewhat further in endorsing a system than I would. He would have it do:

- Warning/indications
- Crisis needs
- World-wide surveillance for theater and naval commanders
- Routine needs for imagery in Communist countries

Actually, Bill raises some question about the transducer which DDS&T and Land are pushing. This obviously is what Land really is asking a decision on.