DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

16 December 1974

NOTE FOR MR. PLUMMER

For your information, here is an updated status on our NRO revised charter.

Lt Colonel, USAF
TOP SECRET

DATE: 19 OCL 74

STATUS OF NRO CHARTER REVISION

- WAITING FOR PHIAO PANEL REPORT

BY

COMMENTS/DIRECTION:

TOP SECRET

SSG AND SPO HANDLING ONLY
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Revised Charter

I have had informal conversation with both the IC Staff and the ASD(I) Staff with regard to the status of our memo which asked for approval, in principal, of the draft updated agreement. The IC Staff has indicated to me that they would prefer to wait until such time as the PFIAB Panel reports out to the President before considering an updated agreement. It was also indicated to me that in substance there was no objection from the CIA or the IC Staff with the draft as presented. I plan to discuss this further with Dr. Stevens.

The ASD(I) Staff had prepared a concurring memorandum for Secretary Schlesinger with a couple of reservations such as the involvement of the NSC in NRO affairs. Based upon the IC Staff position, however, they plan to withdraw their input to Secretary Schlesinger.

The PFIAB Secretariat thinks that Dr. Baker will be ready with his report around the first of February and they are unaware of the precise approach he is taking. It is expected, however, that no radical recommendation will be made and that the NRO entity will be recommended for perpetuation.

My opinion is that the draft agreement has been useful to us for two reasons. First, it moderated the desire to embellish the OMNIBUS NSCID with detailed references to space reconnaissance and the NRO. Second, it has served as a vehicle for obtaining general consensus that an agreement is an appropriate vehicle and that we need a new agreement in the near future. Concurrent with this is
that some fundamental issues are being raised such as those by General Allen which if resolved peacefully can serve to strengthen the NRO's contribution to the national intelligence business.

Lt Colonel, USAF