

THE WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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75 AUG 21 PM 12:03

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NSA \_\_\_\_\_ ERDA \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION/COMMENT

21 AUG 75 12:16  
MCCO LDK

FROM: David Elliott

TO: See First Page

10 Jul 78

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

[Redacted]

*Civil Applications  
of URO Dams and  
SOURCES*

*for your Signature*

[Redacted]

*Justy - double  
space  
re-type*

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[Redacted]

~~TOP SECRET~~

HANDLE VIA  
[REDACTED]

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D C

~~TOP SECRET~~  
[REDACTED]

THE NRO STAFF

22 AUG 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. COOK  
THRU [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Recommendation of the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States Pertaining to Civilian Agencies' Use of Classified Overhead Photography

I talked to Dr. Dave Elliott, NSC Staff, regarding the attached proposed memo. I asked for his opinion on how it might overlap the 1 August 1975 Memorandum of Agreement signed by Schlesinger, Colby and Fletcher. He stated that the proposed memorandum is an "implementation and working group" type of document and that the 1 August 1975 memo is concerned with policy issues.

This being the case, the proposed memo appears to be acceptable and does not interfere with any of the activities we are now working.

The document would bring a greater coherency to the civil side of government regarding classified overhead photography usage. It could be that the classified facility at the [REDACTED] that the Civil Applications Committee could become the civilian counterpart to COMIREX. However, the security implementation aspects regarding this memo will require considerable scrutiny as this plan proceeds.

Dr. Elliott stated that OMB asked a staff member at COMIREX if the document could be considered unclassified. The reply was yes! I advised him that Dr. Kissinger's memo on the subject was still valid and classified overhead photography as relates to reconnaissance satellite systems is still a SECRET fact.

[REDACTED]  
Major, USAF

CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED] EXEMPT FROM  
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE  
GORY 1.62 DECLASSIFY ON RMP DET

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PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR  
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE  
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS  
AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY  
THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, UNITED STATES ARMY

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Recommendation of  
the Commission on CIA Activities within  
the United States Pertaining to Civilian  
Agencies' Use of Classified Overhead  
Photography

The President has noted that the Commission on-CIA  
Activities Within the United States in discussing overhead  
photography of the United States concluded that it can find  
no impropriety in permitting continued civilian use of  
classified overhead photography and that economy dictates  
the use of the photographs for appropriate civilian purposes.  
Accordingly, the President has directed the establishment of  
a civilian agency committee to oversee civilian uses of  
photography taken over the United States.

To implement the President's decision, the following  
actions are to be taken:

1. The Secretary of Interior will form a Civil Applica-  
tions Committee which will:

~~SECRET~~

2

- receive, evaluate, consolidate, standardize, establish priorities and transmit to the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) through the Chairman of the Committee for Imagery Reconnaissance and Exploitation (COMIREX) all requests for classified photography from domestic civilian agencies;
- stimulate and facilitate civilian agencies' use of classified systems and coordinate the incorporation of photography, data derived, and technology in performance of domestic civilian functions;
- supply information to civilian agencies so that they may knowledgeably formulate requests and reach compromises between requests and capabilities;
- act as the interface between civilian agencies and intelligence collectors, recognizing that the Director of Central Intelligence will not be involved in judgments concerning civil agency needs or priorities and that collection for this purpose will remain incidental to foreign intelligence collection;
- oversee civilian agency uses of classified photographic products in a manner designed to avoid any concerns that domestic photographic coverage is being used improperly in, for example, law enforcement, police, or internal security activities.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

3

In performing all of the above activities, the Committee will be subject to guidelines established by the President.

2. The Committee will be chaired by the representative of the Department of Interior and will consist of representatives of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. Membership may be expanded at the discretion of the Committee.

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will designate a representative to serve ex officio on the Civil Applications Committee for the purpose of liaison with the intelligence community, to assist in obtaining domestic photography, to address issues concerned with the use of classified products, and to facilitate the acquisition of security clearances for users. Since civil usage of data is enhanced if unclassified, the DCI's representative will be an intermediary on questions concerning release of information from security control as appropriate.

Henry A. Kissinger

William E. Colby

James T. Lynn

~~SECRET~~

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET ATTACHMENT

August 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SITUATION ROOM

FROM: DAVID ELLIOTT

SUBJECT: LDX URGENTLY

Please LDX one copy each to the following:

"D"

Honorable James W. Plumber  
Under Secretary of the Air Force  
The Pentagon - Room 4E-871  
Telephone No. 697-1361

"A"

1011

Dr. Sayre Stevens  
CIA Headquarters

"B"

Mr. Wreatham Gathright  
Department of State  
S/P Room 7212A  
Telephone No. 632-2474

SECRET ATTACHMENT