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DRAFT, 15 Feb 65

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

SUBJECT: CORONA

Sent to [redacted]
[redacted] on 17 Feb 65

1. This agreement between the National Reconnaissance Office, and the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence is based upon policy guidance from the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The CORONA Program is a national endeavor involving the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency within the purview of the National Reconnaissance Program. In order better to focus and utilize the assets of the CIA in the CORONA Program, and to insure a sound mechanism for overall management, the following decisions are effective at once:

a. A single authoritative program manager for CORONA is in the national interest; this manager is the Director, SAFSP, reporting directly to the DNRO. The Director, SAFSP, is responsible to the DNRO for the successful prosecution of the CORONA Program, including:

(i) programming, budgeting, procurement and contracting,

(ii) overall system engineering and technical direction, and

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(iii) conducting and directing orbital operations responsive to orbit selections, launch schedules, and camera decisions by the NRO Satellite Operations Center.

b. All CIA technical, contractual, and security activities in the CORONA Program will be consolidated under a senior CIA representative who will be responsible directly to and located in the offices of the Director, SAFSP.

c. Specifically, the senior CIA representative will be responsible to the Director, SAFSP, for the following:

(1) Performing technical, contractual and security functions as Assistant to the Director, SAFSP, for CORONA payload. In this capacity, the senior CIA representative is the principal advisor to the Director, SAFSP, on all technical matters pertaining to the CORONA payload (NOTE: Payload is defined to include the cameras, film transport mechanism, and associated items peculiar to the camera subsystem).

(2) Serving as the Chairman of a CORONA Payload Advisory Board reporting to the Director, SAFSP.

(3) Serving as the Payload Member of an overall CORONA System Advisory Board reporting to the Director, SAFSP.

(4) Issuing technical direction as approved by the Director, SAFSP, to CORONA contractors under contractual administration of the CIA, and assuring contractor compliance with such directives.

(5) Accomplishing necessary procurement and contractual actions as approved by the Director, SAFSP with appropriate CORONA contractors, and assuring proper performance as set forth in the terms of such contracts.

(6) Establishing and maintaining permanent access lists and granting requests for CORONA-cleared personnel to visit those CORONA contractors and facilities that are under CIA security cognizance.

(7) Granting CORONA clearances to government and contractor personnel whom he determines to be clearable in accordance with [REDACTED] security directives and whose need-to-know has been certificated by himself or by the Director, SAFSP.

(8) Insuring successful support of orbital operations by personnel of the Palo Alto facility in direct response to the NRO Satellite Operations Center (see para 4) and to the Director, SAFSP, under the latter's responsibility:

as CORONA Program Manager.

d. The senior CIA representative will be responsible to the Director, CIA, for:

(1) The administration of assigned CORONA contracts in accordance with applicable statutory requirements.

(2) The supervision of all CIA personnel stationed at SAFSP and with CORONA contractors.

(3) The maintenance of proper security practices at CORONA contractors and the accomplishment of the functions set forth in sub-paragraphs 2c(6) and (7) above in accordance with [REDACTED] security directives.

3. [REDACTED] will provide general systems engineering services for the CORONA Program in accordance with enabling clauses to be approved by DNRO and included in all CORONA system contracts. In addition, [REDACTED], at the discretion of the Director, SAFSP, perform Technical technical advisory services during orbital operations. Interface with CORONA payload contractors will conform to the provisions of the preceding paragraphs.

4. The Palo Alto LMSC AP facility will continue to provide "software" support to the CORONA Program (for example: nominal

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and actual ephemeris computations; camera program decisions, etc). In this regard, the AP facility will be directly responsive to the NRO Satellite Operations Center with regard to orbit selections, launch schedules, and camera program decisions. In addition, the assets available at this facility will be made available for support of NRO operations analysis activities.

Deputy Director of
Central Intelligence

Director
National Reconnaissance Office