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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

18 August 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR DR MARK


SUBJECT: DNRO Membership on the NFIB

In 1965 the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence signed the NRO Charter ("Agreement for the Reorganization of the National Reconnaissance Program," 11 August 1965). This document includes the statement that the Director of the NRO will "sit with the USIB for the matters affecting the NRP." Periodically, the DNRO did attend USIB meetings when NRO matters were on the agenda. It was not specified if the DNRO was a voting member when he attended.

During a meeting soon after he was appointed as DCI, Admiral Turner expressed surprise to Dr Cook that the NRO was not a full member of the NFIB, and invited NRO participation as Dr Cook believed appropriate. As a result, the NFIB Secretariat was requested by the NRO to be included on distribution for all NFIB actions. Each item is screened for interest, and we do comment on those items of concern. The NRO refrains from responding to purely intelligence matters.

DNRO membership on the NFIB is not treated in the draft E.O. implementing PD/NSC-17, but appears to be excluded. An earlier draft prepared by the IC Staff provided for attendance by invitation.

It appears prudent to maintain a continuing interest in NFIB membership for matters affecting the NRP. If this position is acceptable, I will draft an exchange of correspondence between you and the DCI to establish the relationship more formally. I note that this presupposes that our comments to the draft E.O. are accepted, which would permit additional NFIB members.


WILLIAM L. SHIELDS, JR.
Brigadier General, USAF
Director

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