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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D C

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THE NRO STAFF

30 April 1975

Mr. Plummer has seen

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PLUMMER

SUBJECT: European Space Lab

You asked that we develop a preliminary opinion on Space Lab and obtain an input from OD&E.

We discussed the European Space Lab at Mr. Walsh's Technology Committee meeting on Monday. Len Jaffe and Les Dirks both were in attendance. Earlier, I discussed the Space Lab with Mr. Walsh. It seems to be a consensus on the DOD/CIA side that the Europeans are counting on the use of the Shuttle and because of this the United States would appear to have some leverage in determining what is carried into space. The initial configuration aboard Space Lab will not use technology beyond that which has been used by NASA in the open to date. The Space Lab problem appears to be one of longer range and should be made a matter of priority for discussion by the new National Security Council committee which will be formed shortly to review the national space policy. DOD should withhold any firm encouragement to NASA until such time as the national direction is defined. Until such a policy is established, NASA should be urged to take a cautious approach with the Europeans as opposed to stimulating the Europeans to employ high quality sensors.

[REDACTED]

Lt Colonel, USAF

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