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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF


28 January 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WILLIAMSON, NASA

SUBJECT: NASA/NRO/DOD Study

Attached is a paper which establishes the study which was agreed upon by Dr. Fletcher and Mr. Plummer. Mr. Plummer reviewed this plan and agreed with it yesterday and in addition, he clarified two points. First, he wants to conclude the study expeditiously and thought that my projected flow might be too slow. He has agreed, however, that 21 February would be a reasonable date. The other point was that he is committed to the Secretary of Defense to submit our final paper to the NSC. He felt that he had made this clear at the meeting with Dr. Fletcher. I plan to send you a strawman based upon this outline on Friday, 31 January.

Stay in touch.


Lt Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director for
Plans and Policy

1 Attachment
Study Plan

D  (2590-75)

CLASSIFIED  EXEMPT FROM
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATE-
GORY 1B2 DECLASSIFY ON RPT DET.

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NASA/NRO/DOD GUIDELINES FOR EARTH SENSING

I. REVIEW GROUP

WORKING GROUP

Mr. Plummer - NRO
Dr. Walsh - DDR&E
Dr. Wade - OSD
Dr. Stevens - CIA
Dr. Low - NASA
Dr. Petrone - NASA
Mr. Mathews - NASA

Lt Col [redacted] NRO
Dr. Cooper - DDR&E
Mr. Anderson - OSD
Mr. Williamson - NASA
Mr. Krueger - NASA
Mr. Jaffe - NASA

II. FLOW OF STUDY

27-30 Jan - Terms of Reference/Outline.

30 Jan-4 Feb - Draft strawman.

4- 7 Feb - Work Group review strawman.

10-12 Feb - Identify issues/revise strawman.

12-18 Feb - Review Group evaluation/meet/resolve issues.

18-21 Feb - Formulate final paper.

21 Feb - Submit to NSC through SecDef.

III. BASELINE STUDY: 1966 NSAM 156 COMMITTEE REVIEW

- A. Continue to protect NRP security & political integrity.
- B. Enhance U.S. political capital by conducting earth resources surveys. Start this when payoff is assured by laying ground work.
- C. NASA proceed in ERS, but comply with NASA/NRO guidelines.



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- D. Restrict discussion of unclassified systems to 10-15 feet.
- E. NASA should consider alternatives to space borne sensors.
- F. USIB should review decompartmentation.
- G. DCI & DNRO should review technical security.

IV. OUTLINE OF REVIEW

- A. Review 1966 156 Committee guidance.
- B. Civil evolution of space borne earth sensing since 1966.
 - 1. ERS experiments - international commitments.
 - 2. Methodology of data release.
 - 3. National dependence - operational pilot program.
- C. Classified evolution of satellite reconnaissance since 1966.
 - 1. Systems technology.
 - 2. Decompartment and security.
 - 3. National dependence on reconnaissance.
- D. Political environment.
 - 1. Increased foreign awareness.
 - 2. UN Outer Space Committee.
 - 3. International cooperation.

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- 4. Fact of policy/Russia & U.S.
- E. Technical considerations.
 - 1. Present guidelines.
 - 2. Technology release mechanism.
 - 3. Issues in convergence
- F. Data release considerations.
 - 1. Impact on DOD.
 - 2. Value to civil agencies.
 - 3. International questions.
 - 4. Issues.
- G. "Reconnaissance" vs. "Remote Earth Sensing"
 - 1. Convergence.
 - 2. Issues. —
- H. Conclusions and recommendations.

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