MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Impact of Photoreconnaissance Satellite
Decomartmentation

In view of the recent approval which authorizes the DCI
to plan for partial decomartmentation of satellite photo-
reconnaissance, I believe that it would be appropriate to
consider the impact of this action in the overall context
of current national reconnaissance policy.

Accordingly, I propose that the NSAM 156 Committee review
the present policy, NSCA 2454, in order to formulate updated
political and informational guidelines which are reflective
of the current environment. An assessment of the current
environment should include growing domestic desires to exploit
space derived data freely, international reactions to civil
space programs, Sino-Soviet space philosophies, and estimates
of U.S. toleration to political risk should international
confrontation develop.

cc: SEC DEF
DCI
NASA
ACDA
NSC