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

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR MR [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Inadvertent Release of Sensitive Information
on Space and Satellites

I am concerned that a serious problem exists today within the security review process in that testimony and documents are being approved for release which reveal sensitive compartmented information. A case in point is illustrated in the attached.

I think it would be useful and prudent if you would establish a policy throughout the OSI and the Departments that all security review papers which deal with space or satellites be processed through SAFSS, which should be designated as the expert point of contact on all space and satellite matters.

Your cooperation in this serious matter would be appreciated.

John L. McLucas

1 Attachment
Extracts

WP-217/72

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11: 12-6
[Redacted]

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

[Redacted]

THE NRO STAFF

March 7, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. McLUCAS

SUBJECT: "Fact Of" Statement by Dr. Foster

Attached is an extract from the current issue of Aviation Week which quotes Dr. Foster as having referred to reconnaissance satellites. The article specifically calls out the reference as being the first in a decade by a Pentagon official. Also attached is the page from Dr. Foster's testimony which was released as Unclassified. It was prepared by ARPA and apparently authorized for release through the OSD security review process. Dr. Foster did not read this portion of the testimony before the Committee.

We think that this disclosure is not in our best interest; we are presently engaged in a dialog with Representative Pike to remove sensitive testimony from the record. Mr. Helms' letter to the President reiterates his concern over security leaks on new programs, and the deliberations of the NSAM 156 Committee on acknowledging reconnaissance satellite applications to SALT monitoring have not been concluded. It would seem appropriate to express concern to Dr. Foster about this subject. It is recommended that you also bring this to the attention of Mr. Helms. SAFOI has received a call from [Redacted] as to the meaning of the reference and was given a no comment response.

We are preparing a memorandum for your signature to Mr. [Redacted] which requests that all DOD security review items which relate to space or satellites be submitted to SAFSS for approval. (At the right)

for [Redacted]
FREDERICK L. HOFMANN
Lt Colonel, USAF

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Item titled "Satellite Concern" from page 12, Aviation Week and Space Technology, dated March 6, 1972.

Pentagon concern over Soviet test of killer satellites (Aviation Week and Space Technology, December 13, 1971, page 20) emerges from recent testimony by Dr. John S. Foster, Director of Defense Research & Engineering before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Foster said "currently, and for Fiscal 73, some very promising and highly technical techniques are being developed to monitor and classify Soviet space activities. This work could have a great impact on U.S. space activities related to communications, reconnaissance and surveillance."

The mention of U.S. reconnaissance satellites is believed to be the first public reference to such spacecraft by a Pentagon official in more than a decade.

[REDACTED]

5.7 ARPA and DPA

Although you will be discussing the programs of the Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Defense Nuclear Agency in detail with their respective Directors, these programs are important segments of our overall Defense research and technology base, and I would like to describe them.

5.7.1 The Advanced Research Projects Agency: ARPA is an independent Defense Agency which operates under my guidance. The Secretary of Defense and I depend upon ARPA to explore specific critical, high-risk, high-payoff defense research areas. ARPA coordinates its activities closely with the Military Departments, and many of the projects it begins are subsequently incorporated in their programs. It receives both 6.1 and 6.2 funding. The 6.1 programs, budgeted at about \$40 million, include material science, human resources research, and information-processing techniques. ARPA's involvement stresses the cross-Service aspects of these research areas. In the human resources area, for example, the DoD spends \$6.5 billion per year in the training of 2 million servicemen in some 2,000 different specialty areas. An improvement of even a few percentage points in these training methods would represent a savings measured in the hundreds of million dollars. Working with the Military Services and the Assistant Secretary (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) ARPA is emphasizing this area of research in 1973, with a long-term goal of achieving a 15 percent improvement in training effectiveness.

The Exploratory Development program, funded at about \$136 million, includes efforts in strategic technology, tactical technology, advanced sensors, nuclear-test monitoring, and geographically distributed computer systems. These programs have the goal of answering critical questions concerning technical feasibility and anticipating possible technical surprises that could affect the U.S. strategic and technical posture.

A past example was the development of large phased-array radars for ballistic missile defense which have become major components of the Safeguard system. A current example is ARPA's work in over-the-horizon (OTH) radars, which show promise of increasing warning time for our deterrent forces and improving fleet and CONUS air defense.

Over the years ARPA has developed techniques to monitor nuclear test-ban agreements at increasingly lower levels of detectability. Currently, and for FY '73, some very promising and highly technical techniques are being developed to monitor and classify Soviet space activities. This work could have a great impact on U.S. space activities related to communications, reconnaissance and surveillance.