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

THE NRO STAFF

.3 February 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. MARK
              DR. COOK CWC

SUBJECT: GAO Report "Review of DoD's Reconnaissance
          Intelligence Assets (GAO Code 951357)"

The Staff has reviewed both the SECRET version (at the
right) and the TK supplement (Attachment 1) to the GAO
report and has discussed the proposed response with ASD
(C^3I), the OPR for OSD. The SECRET report primarily concerns
tactically-related issues while the supplement addresses
national and strategic reconnaissance assets.

ASD (C^3I) has drafted a lengthy response to the SECRET
version for Dr. Dinneen's signature to Mr. Gutmann. The theme
of the response is that while the report points out areas which
need emphasis such as survivability, C^3, and intelligence pro-
duct sanitization and dissemination, there are numerous
inaccuracies. The most significant misconceptions are the
conclusions the report draws concerning the availability of
reconnaissance assets to support the theater commanders, the
lack of emphasis on theater needs versus national needs, and
the one dramatization of the problems inherent in transitioning
from peacetime to wartime in Europe. The latter stems from
a somewhat distorted view of the U.S. role in NATO.

ASD (C^3I) intends to strongly recommend that the GAO
team meet with DoD representatives to attempt to resolve
these issues prior to publication. The NRO will be on dis-
tribution for the OSD response to GAO.

The TK supplement is a predictable report in that it
presents the theater commanders' viewpoint of all the national/
tactical issues. The report blames the DCI and SecDef for
denying access to the NRP. We have recommended that the
reference to the SecDef be removed and that the tone of the
sentence in the preface be softened (change "denied" to "not
provided"). In addition, the Staff recommended the response
time for ████████ ries satellites be changed to reflect the
████████ (Appendix C and D)

                              Colonel, USAF
                              Acting Director

ACTION O
  MAJ.