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ISI NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 27, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL SHOWERS

SUBJECT: General Bennett's Proposal on Decontrol and Downgrading of Satellite Photography

Dr. McLucas has been asked, by Mr. Packard to comment on General Bennett's proposal.

In order that Dr. McLucas understand better the current operation he has asked us to gather for him pertinent information on several questions which were not, unfortunately, addressed in the proposal:

1. What influencing factors have changed since the previous (1967) proposal to alter the compartmentized control of information?

2. What are the "compartmentation hardships" being experienced by the DIA in the handling of the products and information derived from photographic satellites?

3. What are the specific inhibitions that preclude the effective use of the products in contingency planning, target material production, and map and chart preparation.

4. Are there advantages to be gained in the surfacing of the "fact of" our activities? What is likely to be the impact of a "downgrading and decontrol" on our progress in the SALT talks? What are the consequences of a downgrading and decontrol of satellite photography?

I realize you must be preparing information on aspects of this issue for other elements of the Department; however,



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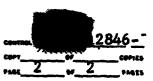
I must respond to a number of questions that Dr. McLucas will ask. Consequently, I would ask your views on anything we might do under the present security rules to assist in your objective of providing for the more effective use, by the U & S Commands and the Service field elements, of satellite photographic products. Specifically, is the NRO doing enough? Are we doing more or less than we think?

I would appreciate any information you might provide to assist us in the review of this issue for Dr. McLucas.

LEW ALLEN, JR. Brigadier General, USAF Director NRO Staff







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