MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Studies Concerning Security and Technology Transfer Impacts of the Pending Transfer of LANDSAT-D Ground Station Technology to the People's Republic of China (PRC)

The NRO staff commissioned the attached studies in late November in an effort to satisfy OUSD(R&E)'s stated need for an "objective assessment" of the PRC LANDSAT-D Ground Station proposal. Study No. 1 was done by Dr. [redacted], who has long served in a variety of advisory capacities with the SIGINT Overhead Reconnaissance Program. The two studies were commissioned to be performed wholly separately. While they differ in some specific findings, they nevertheless both advise a very conservative approach in providing LANDSAT-D associated technology to the Chinese. It should be noted that Study 2 is a more detailed effort, having taken three weeks to complete while Study 1 was completed (at the NRO's request) in about ten days.

It should be emphasized that both are contractor efforts and neither has been subjected to any rigorous scrutiny within government.