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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY

SUBJECT: Review of the (TS) National Reconnaissance Program

From time to time the (TS) National Reconnaissance Office is approached by representatives of various governmental activities who wish to schedule "an overall review of surveillance programs." These requests are based on sincere motives and usually stem from a perfectly legal charter to conduct such studies.

When the requesting activity is part of the Defense Department, we have experienced no difficulty in arranging for cancellation of the survey. However, when the activity is non-Defense, for example, the Net Evaluation SubCommittee of the National Security Council, it is somewhat awkward for the Defense Department to explain that the (TS) National Reconnaissance Program is already under adequate review. Clearly, such certification should come from outside the Department under review and from someone who knows that the program is actually reviewed by the highest levels of the Executive Office.

I would like to propose an arrangement authorizing us to refer these non-Defense survey requests to your office for evaluation. I realize that there could well be some instances where a review would be desirable; however, when this is not the case, a word of reassurance from you or your representative would help avoid a duplication of the existing review structure and activity.

Signed
Joseph V. Charney
Director
(S) National Reconnaissance
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