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WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF

September 12, 1969

NOTE FOR CAPTAIN WILSON

SUBJECT: NRP Annex to the Space Task Group Report

I have sent copies of Mr. Laird's memorandum and the NRP Annex to the STG Report to:

- Mr. Kiley for Mr. Helms
- Mr. Jessup for Mr. Mitchell
- Mr. Chapin for Dr. Kissinger
- Mr. McAfee for Ambassador Johnson

I have asked that the documents be returned to me once the principals have completed their review. Copies for Mr. Packard's review are attached.

Also attached is Colonel [redacted] note which responds to Mr. Packard's question as to "Why better NASA?" on the readout technology program referenced on page 3 of the Annex.



Lt Colonel, USAF

Attachments

- 8262-69
- 3098-69
- 13167-69



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NOTE FOR MR. PACKARD

You asked: "Why is electronic readout better for NASA?"

NASA argues that an Earth Resources Satellite program will have economic benefit by returning photographs of crop conditions, water supplies, ice conditions, etc. The economic argument is weak at best and critics have pointed out the advantage of aircraft for such surveys. NASA is primarily interested in satellites, however, and has concluded that, to be at all economic, the survey satellite must be a very long lived satellite with electronic readout. Their initial experiments will use high resolution TV but they would benefit greatly if more advanced sensors could be used. If NASA were to establish a sound program of research and development in electro-optical imaging devices, the broader base of technology plus the presumed bold research approach of NASA would lend support to our efforts in this area.

Colonel, USAF  
Director

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