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FOR YOUR:

DATE 6 July

SIGNATURE
APPROVAL
COMMENTS
COORDINATION
INFORMATION
ACTION

X

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FILE

TICKLER

MEETING WITH: _____

SUBJECT: _____

Designates Dr Naka as
participant in NSAM 156 Comm. Hrc
meeting on Skylab

By

WLS

YOUR COMMENTS/DIRECTION:

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7/7 - Signed

1 called Berthoulet's
Secretary 1st PM.

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

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

July 7, 1971

Dear Alex,

This is in response to your memorandum of June 30, 1971
(7385-71). Dr. F. Robert Naka, Deputy Director of the
NRO and Major [redacted] of the NRO Staff will participate
in the staff [redacted] be held Thursday, July 8, 1971.

Sincerely,

[redacted signature]

John L. Lucas

The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson
Under Secretary for Political Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

[redacted block]

[redacted block]

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~~IS~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

July 2, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. McLUCAS

SUBJECT: NSAM 156 Committee Meeting

At TAB A is a letter from Dr. Fletcher to Dr. Kissinger asking for agreement to incorporate a high resolution camera into SKYLAB. The letter was prompted by deferral of 40 Committee action on Dr. Fletcher's earlier request, but also raises the question of a review of NSAM 156 Committee guidelines on earth sensing. At TAB B is Dr. Kissinger's note to Ambassador Johnson suggesting that he may wish to convene the 156 Committee. At TAB C is a letter of notification of a staff level meeting to be held July 8 as a preliminary to preparing a response for consideration by the principals.

We have been in contact with Mr. Packard's office on the matter of OSD representation. Colonel Furlong, at our suggestion, will identify an individual from OSD(ISA) to attend as the OSD representative. This follows past precedent in NSAM 156 activity.

At the right, for your signature, is a response to Ambassador Johnson with notification that Dr. Naka and Maj [redacted] will attend the staff level meeting.

[redacted]
Major, USAF

Bradburn

DR NAKA HAS SIGN
AND COMMENTS
Info

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NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

MAY 20 1971

Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Dr. Kissinger:

In our letter of April 14, 1971 (7486-71), we requested approval for unclassified design and procurement of an earth terrain camera for possible use on Skylab in 1973. I recognize that such an approach may be taken to represent a de facto change in policy, and that you and your Committee may not wish to take such an action without an extended review.

It does appear to me that the national policies controlling the deployment of earth sensing space technologies, last examined in detail by the 156 Committee in 1966, should be thoughtfully reviewed again in the near future. As foreseen in 1966, the international and internal environment has evolved over the past five years, the technologies related to earth observation are advancing dramatically, and the recognition of the potential values of space systems for civil applications has grown world-wide. It seems to me certain that continuing civil earth and ocean surveys from space are inevitable, first for research and later for operational missions. We must therefore consider the overall policy framework within which these capabilities should be developed.

In Skylab, we propose to carry an earth terrain camera that will return photography for civil earth resources survey investigations that is expected to have a measurable ground resolution of between 10 and 20 meters. This quality is better than the currently accepted policy limitation of 20 meters that was laid down in 1966 but is required for selected

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geological survey investigations and for the kind of inter-comparison studies desired by the Office of Science and Technology.

The problem we face today is one of schedule and leadtime. In order to meet the engineering schedule for the Skylab workshop, we need to initiate lens procurement and detail installation design no later than the end of May if we are to meet the electrical system test scheduled for August. Delaying initiation until the fall results in higher costs and higher risks of failure, both of which we wish to avoid. We want to carry out our contracting on an unclassified basis; classified contracting would cost more, would interfere with the management of the whole rest of the unclassified Skylab program, and would highlight undesirably the existence of a U. S. imposed constraint on civil R&D programs.

We need appropriate authorization to proceed with unclassified development of the earth terrain camera. We recognize that a policy review might result in a decision not to acquire data of the quality expected from this camera; in that case, we can arrange its removal from Skylab prior to flight without perturbing the program. On the other hand, without a procurement go ahead, we would lose the option to acquire 10 to 20 meter experimental earth resources photography as part of Skylab.

I therefore propose to authorize the unclassified procurement and installation design of the earth terrain camera at this time, reserving any public announcement or commitment to flight operations until the policy issues have been resolved. I would appreciate your agreement with this course of action which, though not ideal, is made necessary by engineering schedules.

Sincerely,

Jim F
James C. Fletcher
Administrator

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UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON



June 30, 1971

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Defense - Mr. David Packard
Mr. John McLucas
CIA - Mr. Richard Helms
NSA - Dr. James Fletcher
ACDA - Mr. Philip J. Farley
White House - Mr. Henry A. Kissinger
Dr. Edward David
NASC - Col. William Anders

SUBJECT: NSAM 156 Committee

I am enclosing a memorandum of June 24 from Henry Kissinger together with a self-explanatory memorandum of May 20 from Jim Fletcher.

To review this matter and prepare a response for consideration by the principals, a staff-level meeting will be held on Thursday, July 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room adjacent to room 7244, the Department of State.

I would appreciate your designating an appropriately cleared member of your staff to attend this meeting. The name of your representative should be provided in advance to Mr. W. E. Gathright (State Department telephone number 632-1009), who will serve as chairman of the meeting.


U. Alexis Johnson

Enclosures:

As stated.

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106-30-006

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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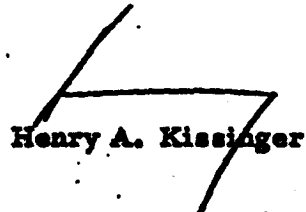
June 24, 1971

Dear Alex:

The attached letter from Jim Fletcher suggests a fresh look at our policies on earth sensing space technologies to see if any changes are in order.

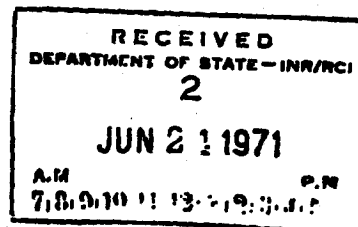
In view of our expanding programs in the area, you may wish to convene your 156 Committee to review these matters.

Warm regards,


Henry A. Kissinger

The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson
Under Secretary for Political Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

-Attachment



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[REDACTED] 385-71