

~~TOP SECRET~~ HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

23 September 1975

NOTE FOR MR. PLUMMER

At the right is a Memorandum for the Record on a meeting [redacted] had with Mr. Smith of the NSC Staff concerning a proposed National Security Study Memorandum on the use of NRP assets in the tactical support role.

[redacted]
Colonel, USAF
Director

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE NRO STAFF

22 September 1975

Mr. Plummer has seen

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Proposed NSSM on Use of NRO Assets for
Tactical Support

Today, I visited Mr. Bob Smith of the NSC at his request to review a draft NSSM on the tactical uses of NRO assets. The NSSM stems from the study recently completed by Dr. Slicker and his Panel under NSC sponsorship. The NSSM would be addressed to the Secretaries of State and Defense, the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the Director of Central Intelligence with a copy to the Chairman, JCS. The completion date for the study is 31 March 1976. The study will cover such areas as satellite product security, additional required resources for the NRP and data distribution of NRP acquired data. The NSSM also suggests that an ad hoc panel on satellite vulnerability support the study group.

My comments were that this area of interest was certainly shared by both the Pentagon and the CIA and that State Department and Arms Control had a lesser interest in the topic. I urged Mr. Smith to pre-coordinate the study in the Pentagon before the NSSM was signed and to insure an unbiased chairman. I suggested that Mr. Marshall might be a good chairman for the group. I explained also that we were concerned that the desire to move the NRP into a definite tactical support mode might serve, if not done systematically, to negate the advantages of the NRO concept, i.e., no competition for resources and streamlined management. I also asked Mr. Smith to consider having a formal information copy sent to the Director, NRO. Mr. Smith seemed to favorably consider this suggestion. I concluded our session by inviting Mr. Smith to our Staff Office in order to provide him greater insight into how the NRO is geared up to manage its affairs.

[REDACTED]

Lt Colonel, USAF

cc: SS-6, SS-7

HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

CLASSIFIED BY BYEMAN 1 EXEMPT FROM
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATI
GORY 1B2 DECLASSIFY ON IMP DCL

~~TOP SECRET~~

CONTROL NO Internal
COPY OF COPIES
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES