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SPACE POLICY COMMITTEE

SIR-

- HERE IS BUD COYLE'S STATUS REPORT

- HE HAS EMPHASIZED, IN CONVERSATION WITH ME, THAT THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IS IN THE CONCEPTUAL PHASE AND WILL NOT GET DEFINITION UNTIL AFTER NEXT WEEK'S WORKING GROUP MEETING.

CWOK

held for final pass for luncheon only

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

THE NRO STAFF


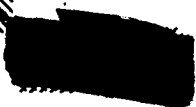
18 August 1975


MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PLUMMER

SUBJECT: Space Policy Committee

You asked for data in order to prepare yourself for a luncheon meeting with Mr. Sisco. Attached are the Terms of Reference for the first study which we hope the group will accomplish. There will be a meeting of the working group on the 27th. Colonel Wheeler will attend this meeting in my absence. I have met with Dr. Wade, Mr. Katz and Mr. Stowe, all of whom will participate in the working group meeting to explain what we had in mind in writing the Terms of Reference. Our main goal in the first study should be to bring up the awareness of those backing civil space programs toward the possibility of having the civil programs serve to constrain the quietly done reconnaissance programs. We hope that policy emanating from the Committee will constrain NASA to the extent that its earth observation programs will no longer be free to observe nations who may object. In other words, have a political assessment accomplished of NASA's currently uncoordinated earth observation activities.

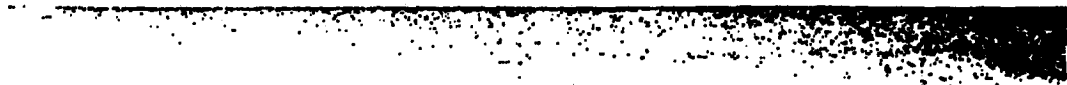
In view of the fact that Mr. Sisco is involved in the Mid-East negotiations, I believe that the luncheon meeting will not occur until around mid September. By the time of the luncheon, we will be prepared to provide you a detailed talking paper which will reflect the first meeting of the working group.


HAROLD S. COYLE, JR.
Lt Colonel, USAF 

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

DOD, NASA and CIA have established a Program Review Board to coordinate on issues relevant to space programs of NASA and DOD. To assist the Review Board, the following areas should be addressed.

1. To what extent have the political and technical environments evolved since the 1966 NSAM 156 Committee policy recommendations as a result of the initiation of civil earth resources and earth science programs?

a. What international benefits have accrued to the U.S. since the advent of the Earth Resources Program? How can potential benefits be optimized?

b. Should the U.S. Government enhance unilateral benefits from the civil programs? Should the civil data release policies be made more stringent?

c. Should the civil sector receive greater technological and/or data benefits from military programs than is presently the case? If so, when should it be done?

d. Is the DOD/NASA analysis an accurate assessment of the interagency group views? What amendments should be made to the analysis?

2. To what extent has the political environment become less benign to the conduct of the National Reconnaissance Program? Has this been as a result of the openly conducted earth resources and earth science program?

a. What is the assessment of the current dialogs at the United Nations or in other international forums? Is the U.S. position likely to lead to a change in the modus operandi of the National Reconnaissance Program?

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b. To what extent and under what conditions should the civil earth resource and earth science programs continue to openly survey other countries?

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