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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

1 December 1967

Dear Bob:

This is in response to your memorandum of October 12, 1967 (BYE-55045-67) concerning the LM&SS Program Termination.

The Director, Central Intelligence has recently approved the findings and recommendations of a special study group which addressed Recommendation #7 of the NSAM 156 Ad Hoc Committee's report of 11 July 1966, "Political and Security Aspects of Non-Military Applications of Satellite Earth Sensing." Under the policy established by this DCI action the ITEK (-9) mapping camera can be decontrolled and used by the NASA as an unclassified item, provided it is used in accordance with basic NSAM 156 limitations and provided that the covert development and prior intelligence applications of the camera are positively protected from disclosure. The ITEK (-9) camera and descriptive documentation can be declassified, but the flight history of this equipment and the flight qualification data cannot be revealed except under BYEMAN security control under a code word different from UPWARD. I realize that the value of the camera hardware to NASA is enhanced by knowledge of the flight qualification record, and I am prepared to supply these data to two or three NASA officials whose positions of authority will permit them to use the data advantageously, and who will be able to positively prevent queries by NASA personnel to ITEK for development or flight qualification information. Mr. Mazza, the NRO Staff Assistant for Security, working under the supervision of General Berg, has been instructed to prepare terms of reference for the decontrol and declassification of the camera equipment and for the actions necessary to prevent unauthorized disclosure of the camera's history.

I have been advised that Mr. Mazza has already begun negotiations with Messrs. Williamson, Krueger, and Sweet of NASA, on the security aspects of the LM&SS termination, and will develop security instructions to be given all NASA personnel to be debriefed from this activity.

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I propose that the classified hardware and documentation from this program will be maintained and stored by the Director, SAFSP. The BYEMAN/UPWARD documents at NASA headquarters required for historical documentation would be retained, but all BYEMAN documentation at NASA centers would be turned back to SAFSP. The UPWARD code word would continue to be used for control of this material; however, the number of personnel cleared would be greatly reduced. The composition of document files to be retained by NASA headquarters, and SAFSP, can be negotiated between NRO Staff, NASA, and SAFSP.

It may be advisable to eliminate or change the UPWARD code word at some future date; however, this will require further study and need not interfere with the orderly termination of the current LM&SS program. For the immediate future, I intend to retain the UPWARD compartmentation for control of the LM&SS program documentation.

I concur with the proposed posture paper and internal guidance memorandum which you attached as Enclosure 2 to your letter. I also concur in your proposal on the public informational aspects of the LM&SS termination.

Sincerely,

Alexander H. Flax

Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr.
Deputy Administrator
National Aeronautics
and Space Administration
Washington, D.C.

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