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16 FEB 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: Space Council Meeting

The Space Council met on February 14 and I attended as the DOD representative.

During the discussion of the agenda item on MOL-AAP duplication, Ambassador Bohlen, State replacement for Ambassador Kohler, questioned whether MOL had been approved by USIB or his committee (NSAM 156 Committee) to review the value of MOL to the reconnaissance program.

I explained to him that the USIB was a requirements group and that they did not approve the programs selected for fulfilling the requirements.

I further explained to him that his committee should concern themselves with the national policy on how much information on MOL should be surfaced and how fast.

I suggested that we brief Mr. Bohlen on the MOL program as soon as possible.

Several aspects of Mr. Bohlen's comments cause me grave concern.

First, I am not sure he understands the responsibilities of the NSAM 156 Committee. I would like for you to take the DOD responsibility for explaining the workings of the NSAM 156 Committee.

Second, Mr. Bohlen seemed to be uninformed on current MOL status and in general expressed similar opposition to the program that we have heard Mr. Helms express from time to time.

I stated that the program value and scope were reviewed in detail and endorsed by Mr. McNamara, Mr. Schultze, Mr. Vance, Dr. Brown and Dr. Hornig before the President announced the initiation of MOL. I further stated that since the program was

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initiated it has been reviewed by me continuously and that I felt the program was valuable to the future reconnaissance requirement.

I also stated that I believe Dick Helms and Mr. Bohlen are the only ones remaining to be convinced on the importance of MOL to National Defense.

I would like for you to attend the MOL briefing for me. It has been scheduled for Mr. Bohlen's office, Room 7207, State Department, at 1500, February 16. I have been informed by Mr. Packard, State, that all State personnel in attendance will have the necessary special clearance.

Mr. Packard was given the suggestion that this would be a good time to update Under Secretary Katzenbach on MOL if it is convenient for him. If he does not attend it might be well if a MOL briefing were arranged for him as soon as possible.

Johnny
John S. Foster, Jr.

Al,
Discussed this with
McNamara & Nitze.
Paul would like to accompany
us to the session with Bohlen.

W
T.

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COVERING BRIEF

To: DDR&E

From: AD/ST

Problem:

1. To inform Dr. Flax of the discussions on MOL at the Space Council meeting on February 14.
2. To confirm the MOL briefing for Mr. Bohlen at 1500, February 16, Room 7207, State Department.

Discussion:

The State Department representation raised the question at the February 14 Space Council Meeting on the value of the MOL for reconnaissance vs. the "2.4 billion dollars" program costs.

Ambassador Bohlen further indicated that he felt some approval of the MOL by his committee was necessary.

The satellite reconnaissance programs must work with the following three groups regarding requirements. The implementation of the requirement is the responsibility of the NRO, as you stated yesterday to Ambassador Bohlen.

1. USIB - Responsible for total National Intelligence Requirements

Members

Organization

Mr. R. Helms
 Vice Adm R. Taylor
 Mr. J. Hughes
 Lt Gen Carroll
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Brown
 Lt Gen Carter

DCI
 CIA
 State
 DOD
 FBI
 AEC
 NSA

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2. 303 Committee - Responsible for granting overflight permission for aircraft and satellites

<u>Members</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Mr. P. Nitze	DOD
Mr. R. Helms	DCI
Ambassador Bohlen	State
Mr. W. Rostow	White House

3. NSAM 156 Committee - Responsible for the political and international (information) policy on satellite reconnaissance

<u>Members</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Mr. P. Warnke	DOD (ISA)
Dr. Flax	DOD
Ambassador Bohlen	State
Mr. Fisher	Arms Control & Disarmament
Dr. Welsh	Space Council
Mr. C. Duckett	CIA
Mr. S. Keeny	White House
Mr. C. Johnson	White House
(Dr. Seamans) no replacement yet	NASA

Implementation:

Tab A is a summary of the Space Council meeting which alerts Dr. Flax to the suggested action by Ambassador Bohlen that he call an NSAM 156 Committee meeting to review the value of the MOL to the National Reconnaissance Program.

Tab A also confirms the MOL briefing for Mr. Bohlen at 1500, February 16, Room 7207, State Department.

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Recommendation:

That you sign Tab A.

John Kirk
John Kirk

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