PROGRAM DIRECTORS of the NRO

ABC&D

PROGRAM DIRECTORS of the NRO



A PERSONAL NOTE

The Program Directors of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) hold an unprecedented place in the evolution of the NRO. Unsung pioneers, they shaped the future of space reconnaissance. Their achievements and efforts were remarkable and their contributions everlasting.

The NRO was ensured the best in design, construction and operation of the world's most sophisticated satellite systems through the innovation, leadership and technical expertise of the Program Directors. Their vision and dedication was unsurpassed.

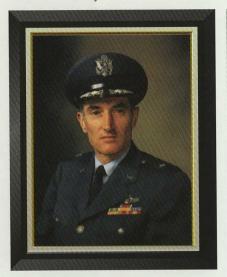
Without the public recognition of these outstanding individuals, the NRO legacy would not be complete. In their honor, we proudly dedicate the Program Directors Hall.

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Program A embraced the U.S. Air Force satellite
reconnaissance element in the National
Reconnaissance Program and consisted of the Special
Projects Office located on the West Coast. The DNRO
established Program A on 23 July 1962. Disestablished
on 31 December 1992, the USAF program was
superceded by functional NRO directorates.

PROGRAM A



Brigadier General Robert E. Greer (Retired as Major General)

Major General Greer's experience with the Air Force SAMOS satellite program provided the newly formed NRO with the expertise needed to successfully execute early reconnaissance platforms.



Brigadier General John L. Martin, Jr. (Retired as Major General)

Major General Martin introduced important changes to system testing and vehicle assembly. He implemented a more rapid factory-to-pad system of processing the satellite payload and launch vehicle.

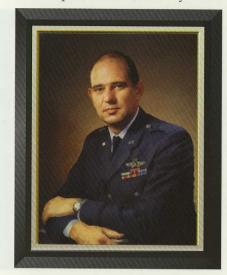
August 1969 - March 1971



Brigadier General William G. King

Brigadier General King's attention to detail and quality control in vehicle assembly played a pivotal role in the continuing success of imaging platforms.

April 1971 - January 1973



Brigadier General Lew Allen, Jr.
(Retired as General)

As program director during the first Cold War treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union, General Allen managed national assets that assured treaty compliance.

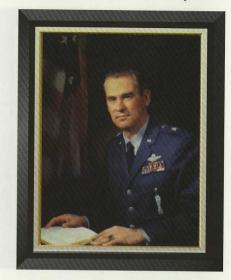
January 1973 - July 1975



Brigadier General David D. Bradburn (Retired as Major General)

Major General Bradburn worked diligently to improve the relationship between the NRO and NSA, resulting in significant improvements to overhead signals collection.

August 1975 - January 1983



Brigadier General John E. Kulpa, Jr. (Retired as Major General)

During the tenure of Major General Kulpa, technological breakthroughs enabled NRO satellites to increase mission parameters. Major General Kulpa conducted studies in vehicle reusability and launch environments.

January 1983 - February 1987



Brigadier General Ralph H. Jacobson (Retired as Major General)

Major General Jacobson played an instrumental role in the genesis of a new reconnaissance program. His background in astronautical engineering and ballistic missiles was critical to the program's success.

February 1987 - January 1993



Brigadier General Nathan J. Lindsay (Retired as Major General)

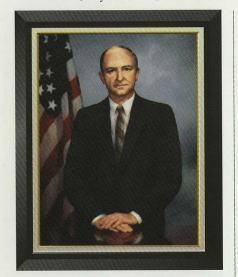
Serving as the last full-time director on the West Coast, Major General Lindsay continued the tradition of mission success. He ensured program integration and co-location of facilities. Program B embraced the Central Intelligence Agency satellite reconnaissance element in the National Reconnaissance Program and consisted of the Office of Development and Engineering in the CIA Directorate of Science and Technology located on the East Coast.

The DNRO established Program B on 23 July 1962.

Disestablished on 31 December 1992, the CIA program was superceded by functional NRO directorates.

PROGRAM B

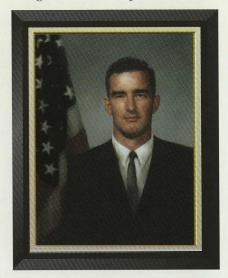
July 1962 - June 1963



Dr. Herbert Scoville, Jr.

Dr. Scoville influenced the decisions that became the foundation of the NRO structure. He is credited as one of the original developers of verification methods essential for arms control treaties.

August 1963 - September 1965



Colonel Jack C. Ledford (Retired as Brigadier General)

Chosen for his experience in solving complex research and development problems, Brigadier General Ledford effectively managed a dispersed and diversified Program B.

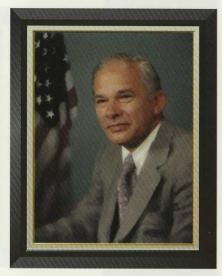
September 1965 - January 1967



Mr. Huntington D. Sheldon

Mr. Sheldon focused much of his efforts on management restructuring and the need for financial stability. He was instrumental in the mending of relations between the Department of Defense and Central Intelligence Agency.

January 1967 - May 1976

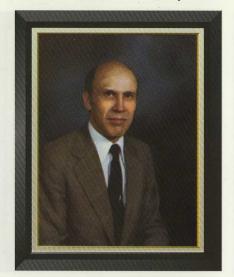


Mr. Carl E. Duckett

As the founding father of the Foreign Missile and Space Analysis Center, Mr. Duckett played an important role in educating the Intelligence Community about the possible threats posed by ballistic missiles.

Program B

June 1976 - July 1982



Mr. Leslie C. Dirks

Mr. Dirks' inspiration and technical expertise created a new class of overhead imagery systems revolutionizing intelligence collection. Mr. Dirks also served as the first director of the Office of Development and Engineering.

July 1982 - August 1989



Mr. R. Evans Hineman

As one of the Agency's most distinguished engineers, analysts, and weapons technologists, Mr. Hineman introduced a system that combined collection and processing to produce world class scientific and weapons intelligence.

August 1989 - January 1993



Mr. Julian Caballero, Jr.

Mr. Caballero directed the development and operation of several new imagery and SIGINT technical collection systems. He assisted in establishing a responsive and flexible U.S. imagery system between intelligence agencies.



Program C embraced the U.S. Navy satellite reconnaissance element in the National Reconnaissance Program and consisted of the Technical Operation Group (made up of representatives from the Naval Research Laboratory, the Naval Security Group, and the National Security Agency) located on the East Coast. The DNRO established Program C on 23 July 1962. Disestablished on 31 December 1992, the USN program was superceded by functional NRO directorates.

PROGRAM C

July 1962 - June 1963



Rear Admiral Vernon L. Lowrance (Retired as Vice Admiral)

Noted for his inspiring devotion to duty, Vice Admiral Lowrance was instrumental in developing early Navy space systems and advancing antisubmarine warfare weapons systems.



Rear Admiral Rufus L. Taylor
(Retired as Vice Admiral)

Instrumental in early SIGINT satellite systems, Vice Admiral Taylor, was the only Program Director to serve as both Deputy Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency.

July 1966 - June 1968



Rear Admiral Eugene B. Fluckey

Rear Admiral Fluckey applied ceaseless energy to major objectives and contributed to the improvement of principal Naval Intelligence programs. His influence was strongly felt in both national and international matters.

August 1968 - January 1971



Rear Admiral Frederick J. Harlfinger, II
(Retired as Vice Admiral)

Under Vice Admiral Harlfinger's leadership Naval Intelligence efforts rose to new heights in capability, technical expertise and operations in all areas of intelligence.

January 1971 - July 1975



Captain Robert K. Geiger (Retired as Rear Admiral)

Rear Admiral Geiger's managerial skills and expert technical knowledge were key factors in the planning, analysis and development of state-of-the-art intelligence programs.

July 1975 - July 1977



Captain Robert T. Darcy

Captain Darcy advanced space efforts in the engineering and development of satellite communications systems, navigation systems, environmental systems and ocean surveillance systems.

July 1977 - August 1981



Rear Admiral Grover M. Yowell

An expert in engineering electronics, Rear Admiral Yowell led major projects for future navigation systems and second generation SIGINT satellite systems.

August 1981 - September 1982



Captain Lee Roy Patterson

Captain Patterson was instrumental in the development, acquisition and operation of several joint service surveillance programs.

Program C

October 1982 - March 1985



Rear Admiral Dennis M. Brooks

Rear Admiral Brooks' aeronautical expertise was invaluable in the direction and management of surveillance and environmental sensing systems of the highest national security.

March 1985 - January 1992



Rear Admiral Thomas C. Betterton

Rear Admiral Betterton shaped the development, deployment and operation of future space-based sensing systems. His tireless efforts set the standards of program excellence.

Program C

January 1992 - January 1993



Rear Admiral Jay W. Sprague

As the last director of Program C, Rear Admiral Sprague contributed significantly to major space programs and SIGINT systems of the highest interest to national security.



Program D embraced the acquisition and support of aerial reconnaissance assets in the National Reconnaissance Program that were assigned to the Director, CIA Reconnaissance Programs. The DNRO established this element, known briefly as "aircraft projects," on 23 July 1962. Program D was disestablished on 1 October 1974 when NRP aerial reconnaissance assets transferred from the CIA to the U.S. Air Force.

PROGRAM D

July 1962 - July 1966



Colonel Leo Geary (Retired as Brigadier General)

Serving as the first program director for the NRO's high altitude reconnaissance platforms, Brigadier General Geary pioneered the management of these operations.

July 1966 - October 1967



Colonel Clason B. Saunders

Colonel Saunders' technical expertise in aerial reconnaissance optics and his first hand knowledge of military overflight requirements was critical to program success.

November 1967 - June 1972



Colonel Frank W. Hartley, Jr.

Colonel Hartley's dynamic leadership, technical expertise and initiative resulted in the success of several major projects vital to national security.

July 1972 - October 1974



Colonel Bernard L. Bailey

Colonel Bailey successfully managed the U-2 and SR-71 programs. He directed the acquisition of critical overhead systems and was influential in several reconnaissance programs.

Program D



