



**Dr. Hans Mark  
Under Secretary of the Air Force/Secretary  
of the Air Force, 1977-1979**

Dr. Mark led the NRO in its research into alternatives to expendable launch vehicles. During his tenure, the NRO completed major upgrades to existing satellite systems and initiated an important new system. Mr. Mark guided the NRO's second major expansion in budget and personnel. While director, he served as Acting Secretary of the Air Force and, later Secretary of the Air Force.