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29 January 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, PROGRAM D

SUBJECT: Codeword and/or Project Indicator for  
D-21 (Drone)

In response to a request by Col Bailey and [redacted] on 24 January 1969, I have discussed with General Berg and [redacted] the subject of a new codeword and/or project indicator for the D-21 (Drone), officially known at this time as Project OXCART/TAGBOARD.

Consideration was given to the fact that the Security Officer, Program D, previously informed this office that the following action had been taken:

A. Persons currently briefed OXCART/TAGBOARD who require continued access because of D-21 involvement have been identified.

B. Persons currently briefed OXCART who require continued access because of Project OXCART close out and storage of records are being identified, and such action is expected to be completed by 1 February 1969.

C. All persons currently briefed OXCART/TAGBOARD or OXCART who do not fall within the categories described in A or B, above, are being debriefed, and such action is expected to be completed by 1 February 1969.

This being the case, on 1 February 1969, there are only two groups that need to be considered, i.e., the small group of Project OXCART briefed personnel required to close out Project OXCART, and the much larger group of Project OXCART/TAGBOARD briefed personnel required to perform the D-21 (Drone) mission.

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As far as the future of the D-21 (Drone) is concerned, either the R&D effort is unsuccessful, and the project is terminated, or the R&D effort is successful, and the project is declared operational under the cognizance of the NRO or SAC.

In any case, at this particular point in time, there is no apparent advantage to be gained by changing the D-21 (Drone) codeword. However, as indicated in the TAGBOARD Concept Plan, B-12294-68, when the D-21 (Drone) is declared operational, consideration will be given to the establishment of a separate and distinct security compartment within the BYEMAN Security Control System which would tend to enhance the security posture of the operational activity.

[Redacted]

Lt Colonel, USAF  
Dep Asst for Security  
NRO Staff

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