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DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING

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SAFSS

31 May 1963

BYE-6730-63

1963 JUN 3 09 54

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Covert Satellites

Reference: DD(R&IS) Memo for Record, dtd 29 May 63 (B-6724-63)

On the basis of further discussions on the above subject, referenced in the Memorandum for Record of 29 May 1963, it appears that Dr. Scoville's statement of a 5412 assignment may have been overstated by him. However, apparently on the basis of an understanding reached between Mr. Gilpatric, Mr. McCone, Dr. Charyk and Dr. Scoville during a FY 64 NRO budget review, the [redacted] budget item covering covert satellites is interpreted as being assigned to the CIA for exploitation; CIA expects to run the program when it is established but still keep it within NRO. Initial CIA action has been additional study by Kelly Johnson of the possibilities for a covert satellite. The CIA expects to report on the results at the forthcoming Purcell Panel meeting. Whether any subsequent actions may be taken by the CIA to formally bring the matter to the 5412 Group's attention for endorsement is not known.

*Eugene G. Fubini*

Eugene G. Fubini  
Deputy Director  
(Research & Information Systems)

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