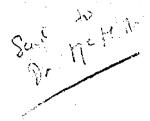
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 30, 1965

HANDLE VIA CONTROL SYSTEM C



MEMORANDUM FOR

The Honorable Cyrus R. Vance Deputy Secretary of Defense

As you know, last week Dr. Land held a meeting of his Reconnaissance Panel to review, among other things, the work that Perkin Elmer, Eastman Kodak and Itek have been conducting on high resolution search systems. I would like to pass on to you the Panel views on this subject as they were reported to me by Dr. Land.

The Panel unanimously supports the following conclusions.

- 1. There is no technical basis for selecting for development at this time one system over any other, nor does the Panel see an urgency for making a selection now rather than, say, three months from now.
- 2. Each system has intrinsic merits which are attractive but, at the same time, each exhibits certain problem areas of concern to the Panel.
- 3. The efforts of all three contractors should be continued in order to better define the advantages and disadvantages of each system.

The Panel therefore strongly recommends that all three contractors be funded for an additional three months and that their effort be focused on the further definition of the unique and special features system design and on such analyses, tests and demonstrations which will further substantiate performance claims. The Panel has made n attempt to work out in detail the specific guidelines appropriate for each contractor's continued effort nor to estimate the specific funding levels that might be appropriate; however, it would expect that the en three month program would not amount to as much as

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I will keep you informed about any additional recommendations that the Panel may develop on this subject.

Donald F. Hornig
Special Assistant for
Science and Technology