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-(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

2 2 AUG 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. COOK

SUBJECT:

: Implementation of the Recommendation of the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States Pertaining to Civilian Agencies' Use of Classified Overhead Photography

I talked to Dr. Dave Elliott, NSC Staff, regarding the attached proposed memo. I asked for his opinion on how it might overlap the 1 August 1975 Memorandum of Agreement signed by Schlesinger, Colby and Fletcher. He stated that the proposed memorandum is an "implementation and working group" type of document and that the 1 August 1975 memo is concerned with policy issues.

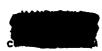
This being the case, the proposed memo appears to be acceptable and does not interfere with any of the activities we are now working.

The document would bring a greater coherency to the civil side of government regarding classified overhead photogname usage. It could be that the classified facility at the

civilian counterpart to COMIREX. However, the security implementation aspects regarding this memo will require considerable scrutiny as this plan proceeds.

Dr. Elliott stated that OMB asked a staff member at COMIREX if the document could be considered unclassified. The reply was yes! I advised him that Dr. Kissinger's memo on the subject was still valid and classified overhead photography as relates to reconnaissance satellite systems is still a SEC<u>RET fact</u>.

Major, USAF



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, UNITED STATES ARMY

SUBJECT :

Implementation of the Recommendation of the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States Pertaining to Civilian Agencies' Use of Classified Overhead Photography

The President has noted that the Commission on-CIA Activities Within the United States in discussing overhead photography of the United States concluded that it can find no impropriety in permitting continued civilian use of classified overhead photography and that economy dictates the use of the photographs for appropriate civilian purposes. Accordingly, the President has directed the establishment of a civilian agency committee to oversee civilian uses of photography taken over the United States.

To implement the President's decision, the following actions are to be taken:

1. The Secretary of Interior will form a Civil Applications Committee which will: receive, evaluate; consolidate, standardise, establish priorities and transmit to the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) through the Chairman of the Committee for Imagery Reconnaissance and Exploitation (COMIREX) all requests for classified photography from domestic civilian égencies;

stimulate and facilitate civilian agencies' use of classified systems and coordinate the incorporation of photography, data derived, and technology in performance of domestic civilian functions;

supply information to civilian agencies so that they may knowledgeably formulate requests and reach compromises between requests and capabilities; act as the interface between civilian agencies and intelligence collectors, recognizing that the Director of Central Intelligence will not be involved in judgments concerning civil agency needs or priorities and that collection for this purpose will remain incidental to foreign intelligence collection;

oversee civilian agency uses of classified photographic products in a manner designed to avoid any concerns that domestic photographic coverage is being used improperly in, for example, law enforcemant, police, or internal security activities.

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In performing all of the above activities, the Committee will be subject to guidelines established by the President.

2. The Committee will be chaired by the representative of the Department of Interior and will consist of representatives of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. Membership may be expanded at the discretion of the Committee.

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will designate a representative to serve ex officio on the Civil Applications Committee for the purpose of liaison with the intelligence community, to assist in obtaining domestic photography, to address issues concerned with the use of classified products, and to facilitate the acquisition of security clearances for users. Since civil usage of data is enhanced if unclassified, the DCI's representative will be an intermediary on questions concerning release of information from security control as appropriate.

Henry A. Kissinger

William E. Colby

- -

James T. Lynn

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET ATTACHMENT

SECRET ATTACHMENT

August 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SITUATION ROOM

TROM:

DAVID ELLIOTT

SUBJECT:

LDX URGENTLY

Please LDX one copy each to the following:

Honorable James W. Plumber Under Secretary of the Air Force The Pentagon - Room 4E-871 Telephone No. 697-1361

Dr. Sayre Stevens 1011 CIA Headquarters

> Mr. Wreatham Gathright Department of State S/P Room 7212A Telephone No. 632-2474

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