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WASHINGTON, D.C.

AHF

THE NRO STAFF

March 20, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: Conference with Mr. Sheldon on NASA Matters

On March 17, Mr. Reber and I met with Messrs. Sheldon and Oliver at the CIA. The meeting had been requested by Mr. Sheldon, who desired an update on NASA/NRO relationships and particularly on security problems associated with the UPWARD camera.

We reviewed the events of the past two months, making special reference to:

- a. Dr. Hornig's memorandum of February 9 expressing his concern over the earth-orbital flight of UPWARD and your reply of February 15.
- b. Admiral Taylor's letter of February 13 on the same matter and your reply of February 17.
- c. Mr. Vance's memorandum of March 11, expressing his reservations against the use of the GAMBIT camera in the APOLLO Applications Program (AAP).
- d. The activity of the Sensor Applications Coordinating Committee in listing various scenarios for flying UPWARD in an earth orbit.

Mr. Sheldon expressed his appreciation for this briefing. He had been debating, in his own mind, the possible value of a cautionary note from Mr. Helms to Mr. Webb on the UPWARD subject. He now plans to withhold any such action, pending discussions at the NRO Executive Committee.

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Mr. Sheldon believes that all of the current events dealing with earth-orbital UPWARD and AAP are moving us steadily toward a McNamara-Webb confrontation at the White House. He is also concerned that some dedicated NASA employee may decide to "crack the thin shell of security surrounding the NRO" by telling all.


PAUL E. WORTHMAN
Colonel, USAF

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