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NRP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held 17 August 1966
Office of Deputy Secretary of Defense
Room 3E 928, The Pentagon
2:45 - 4:30 p.m.

Members Present

Mr. Cyrus R. Vance Deputy Secretary of Defense
Mr. Richard Helms Director of Central Intelligence
Dr. Donald F. Hornig Special Assistant to the President
for Science and Technology

Others Present

Dr. Alexander H. Flax Director, National Reconnaissance
Office, Ex Officio
Mr. James Q. Reber Secretary, NRP Executive Committee,
Ex Officio

Dr. John S. Foster, Jr. DDR&E
Mr. Huntington D. Sheldon CIA
Mr. John A. Bross CIA
[Redacted] CIA
Dr. Donald Steininger PSAC Staff
Mr. C. William Fischer BOB
[Redacted] NRO Comptroller
Brig. Gen. James I. Stewart Director, NRO Staff

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Review of 1967 NRO Financial Program

MOR/CDF

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(Ref: [Redacted] 15 August 1966)

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On request of the Director, National Reconnaissance
Office, the NRO Comptroller, [Redacted] reviewed
the proposed allocation of funds for 1967 with explanation

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NRO review(s) completed.

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of the status of expenditures for 1966 with indications of under- and over-runs and amounts carried over from approved 1966 expenditures into 1967. In response to earlier ExCom desires, [redacted] charts showed a rough estimate of percentages allocated to R&D.

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The Executive Committee addressed the special topics on which the DNRO had provided a brief [redacted] dated 15 August), these being topics which had been singled out by the DNRO as requiring the Committee's especial attention. They are treated in turn below with the Committee's action indicated.

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J-2R Program

Action: A buy of eight was authorized with the understanding that in approximately six months a decision and fund authorization will be required by the ExCom on whether to go for an additional eight or other number of aircraft.

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[redacted]

Action: The ExCom agreed to defer the expenditure of FY 1967 funds for additional development of the [redacted] pending a decision on the continuation of the program beyond the end of FY 1967. The Director of Central Intelligence will consult the United States Intelligence Board and provide its recommendation to the ExCom on whether the program should be continued.

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ISINGLASS

Action: The DNRO will summarize for the ExCom his findings consequent upon his visit early in September to McDonnell Aircraft Corporation. The summary is to address not only the DNRO's present concerns relevant to the ISINGLASS proposal itself and the direction which we should go in the field of this technology but also the relationship between general technology which is white and this particular proposal. The DNRO will recommend to the ExCom for approval a course of action on this program.

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Summary Action on the 1967 NRO Financial Program

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The allocation of funds for the 1967 NRO financial program as presented by [redacted] was approved as modified by the Executive Committee action on specific items indicated above.

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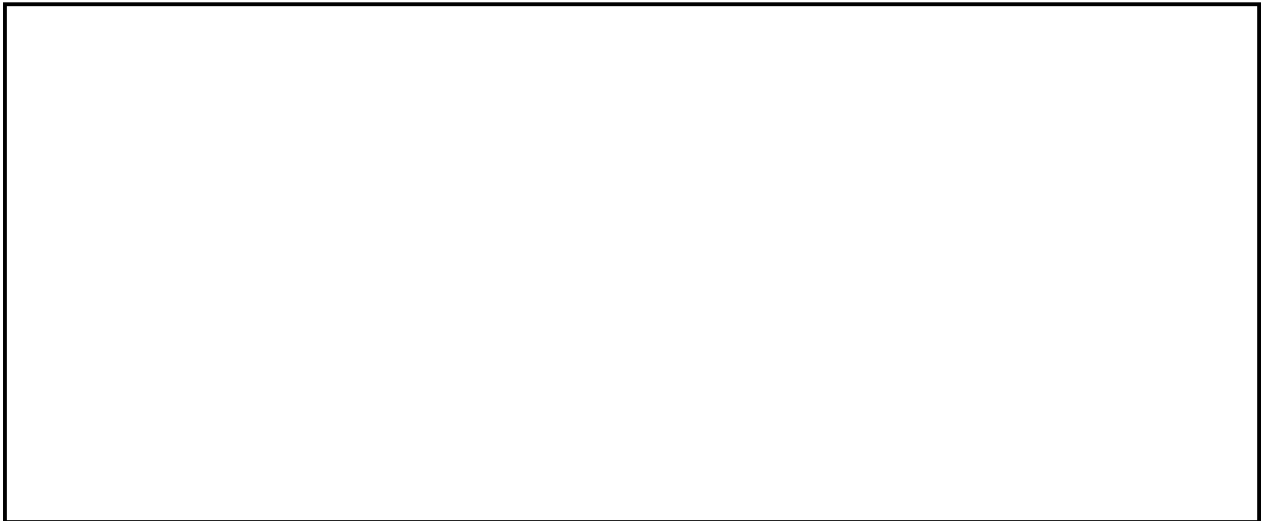
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Question of Continuation of TAGBOARD

The DCI raised the question of whether in view of the recent TAGBOARD accident it was desirable to continue the program.

The DNRO reviewed the situation surrounding the accident which had been preceded by three successful launches and reported that Kelly Johnson would need at least another month to study the problem including the possible use of a rocket boosted TAGBOARD from a B-52 instead of the present Mach 3 launch aircraft. Dr. Flax said he was looking at the total program in terms of cost, recognizing that there was a need for at least two more carrier aircraft if the TAGBOARD were to be used operationally. He proposed, and the ExCom concurred, that he report his findings to the ExCom as soon as that is possible. In the light of this report, the ExCom will examine the question of the future course of action on this program.

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James Q. Reber
Secretary
NRP Executive Committee

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