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9 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/DCI/NIPE

SUBJECT: Significant Problem Areas in
Collection, Processing, and
Coordination

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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1. How will the processors handle the data from the

[redacted]

2. How can the intelligence community exploit more fully industrial and university talent and their in-house funded research work in order to achieve improved technical capabilities applicable to intelligence problems?

3. In view of the large technological improvements now or soon to be available, what is the proper balance between peacetime intelligence collection systems and systems designed primarily for their potential collection capability during war? Specifically,

- a) What is the proper balance between overseas ground or aircraft based ELINT and COMINT collectors and low or high altitude satellites?
- b) In the mapping, charting, and geodesy areas, what is the appropriate balance (and duplication) between satellite photography, and other conventional or non-conventional data sources?

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4. On a national basis, what is the most cost-effective relationship between covert collection programs (i. e., photo satellites) and collection systems to meet the needs of the non-military consumers (Department of Agriculture, USCGS, etc)?

5. How can a closer relationship be achieved between the needs for intelligence and the capabilities for collection, that is, how can the ultimate consumers be related better to the developers and operators?

6. How can a centralized system be set up to deal with the problems of gaps, duplications, and inefficiencies resulting from the existing four separate programs? Is it possible to achieve more uniform and useful planning, programming, review, evaluation, costing, and decision procedures?

7. In view of the technological promise of achievement of non-breakable communication codes, should the existing overall level of effort in COMINT be drastically changed?

8. How can the overall HUMINT effort maintain prompt and proper focus and realignment in the environment of vastly expanding technological collection capability?

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COMINT CONTROL

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