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7 December 1964

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Secretary Vance, Saturday,  
5 December**

1. At Mr. Vance's request (as suggested by Mr. McCone the day before), I called on Secretary Vance at his office on Saturday, 5 December, at 9:15 a.m. The conversation was related entirely to the problems of CORONA and the overall problems of NRO organization. It lasted approximately 1 1/2 hours.

2. Mr. Vance said he had talked to Mr. McCone over the phone but had not been too thoroughly familiar with the problem. He had subsequently talked to McMillan but not in any depth and did not know the details. He asked me to brief him in full on exactly what the problem was.

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5. We then discussed the general problem of NRO and the dichotomy of direction involved. Both of us agreed it was an untenable situation and must be straightened out. We discussed at some length various methods by which it might be straightened out and I left with the impression that Mr. Vance's position would be that the entire operation be turned over to the Department of Defense. He said he would look forward to discussions with Mr. McCone and Mr. McNamara and himself as soon as the three of them could get together.

Marshall S. Carter  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director

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