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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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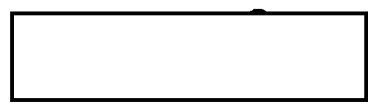
4 May 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: NRP-Related Questions

Subsequent to the briefing to President Carter on NRP imagery systems, you asked three questions related to NRP operations. The first two were forwarded on 15 April. A discussion of Question 3, dealing with assigning a percentage of tasking of each reconnaissance satellite to the Unified and Specified Commanders is attached.

I would be pleased to provide any additional information you may desire on this issue.



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Charles W. Cook  
Acting Director

Attachment  
Discussion Paper -  
Question #3

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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QUESTION #3: Can you give me a rough plan for delegating a percent tasking of each type of satellite to each Unified Commander?

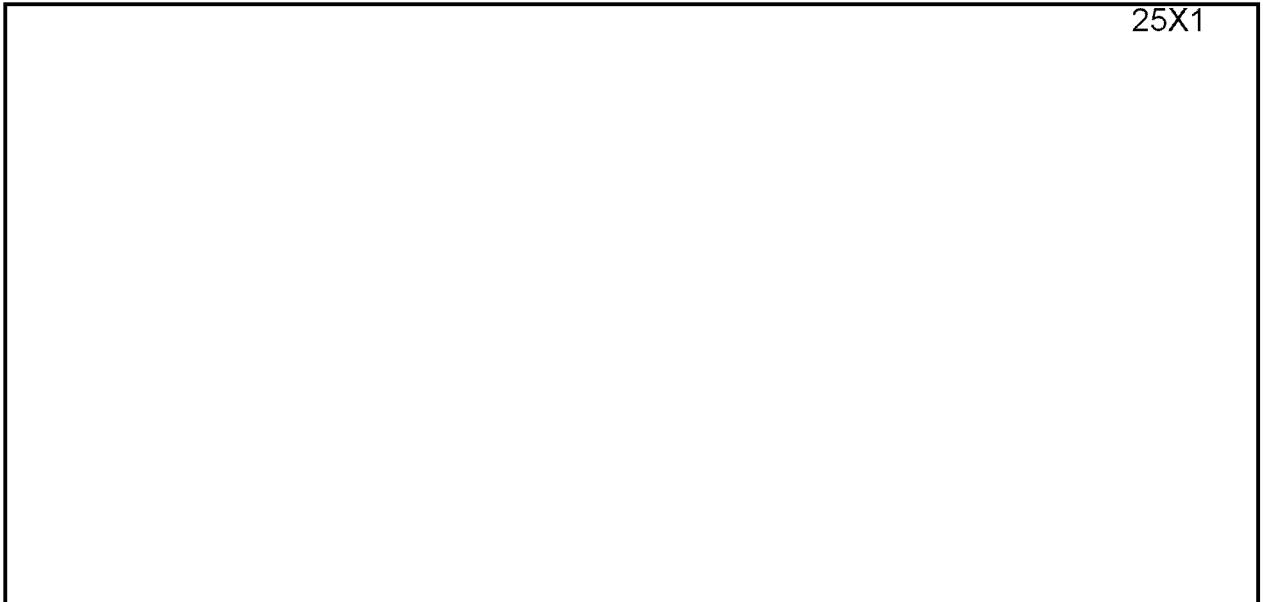
The task of allocating resources to satisfy operational requirements is the responsibility of the NFIB Committees. Delegating a portion of overhead tasking to operational commanders, therefore, is an issue which would be considered by the COMIREX and SIGINT Committees. However, the NRO, as an observer on the COMIREX and SIGINT Committees, is very familiar with the requirements mechanism and this organization also has been very active in working with operational commanders in developing tactical applications for reconnaissance satellites. Based upon this perspective, we offer the discussion below.

Allocation of NRP collection time for operational commanders is already in effect on a limited basis. Of course, all NRP systems are resource-limited and consequently must be operated in accordance with a priority system. Some of the NRP resources are allocated to specific users on a percentage or a defined resource basis. For example, SAC is presently allocated [redacted] for their SIOP targets. However, most NRP resources are used in an integrated manner. That is, the requirements of many users, including the Unified Commands, are integrated and prioritized by the COMIREX/SIGINT Committee mechanism into standing or mission requirements and available resources are used to satisfy these requirements based on priorities and without regard to the original requester. Operational commanders routinely request and receive priority collection and reporting.

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Executive Secretary  
5 May 77  
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