

**Page Denied**

SECRET

[Redacted]

25X1

Copy 1

12 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ARGO Committee Meeting, 10 June 1968. Executive Office  
Building, Room 303, 1000 Hours

1. Agency participants:

[Redacted]

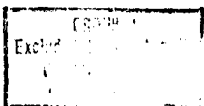
25X1

2. This was the first meeting of a reconstituted committee to consider "civilian agencies'" use of KH satellite materials, a follow-up of the ARGO exercise of last year.

3. [Redacted] noted that the President had been informed about the contents of the ARGO Report and the possibilities indicated therein, that the results were exploratory, and that follow-up was planned. The President approves of the course of action.

25X1

4. Hornig will write a letter to the participating agencies stating what he thinks purpose of committee is. He will say function is to: (1) collect and consolidate the views and needs of the "civilian agencies" for KH photography, (2) make these known to the intelligence community, and (3) discuss with the



SECRET

SECRET

SUBJECT: ARGO Committee Meeting, 10 June 1968. Executive Office  
Building, Room 303, 1000 Hours

intelligence community procedures. The on-going KH intelligence resource can be made use of by the "civilian agencies" under the present rules and security restrictions and it is the purpose of the committee to consider in that light. It is not to be the committee's function to relieve the Agencies of the responsibility for establishing and justifying needs.

5. [ ] then briefly reviewed the follow-up projects suggested by the participating agencies in the Executive Summary of the ARGO Report, and in the Agencies' responses to Hornig's covering letter to that report. Discussion then went around the table.

25X1

6. [ ] of Transportation (Transportation was not a participant in the previous ARGO exercise) had queries on operations costs, aircraft vs. satellite; would like figures like "cost per square mile per foot ground resolution". [ ] said the committee should consider, but referred to NASA, which is forming a similar committee and which will be involved with cost. [ ] remarked that this committee will have its first meeting 16 July. One of its functions will be to consider the impact of the ARGO study.

25X1

25X1

25X1

7. [ ] briefly reviewed COMIREX organization and procedures for benefit of the group. He remarked on the recent experimental use of Bi-Color, said he would like to have their evaluation, and a briefing was suggested including types of subjects of interest to them which were covered. [ ] indicated that a briefing would probably be most advantageous to present after our preliminary technical studies were a little further along. [ ] indicated afterward that he would like to see an indication of areas covered given them, and it was agreed this would be followed by a briefing when feasible. We will have a graphic of potentially useable Bi-Color coverage available for the next meeting).

25X1

25X1

25X1

8. The Agencies then commented on their plans. [ ] for State/AID reviewed thinking to date and reported meeting with Lundahl last week. They will attempt to have a specific project formulated within three weeks, will check with NPIC as to whether coverage available. A question is whether to opt for historical or current study or combination [ ] was recommending

25X1

25X1

25X1

SECRET

25X1

SUBJECT: ARGO Committee Meeting, 10 June 1968. Executive Office  
Building, Room 303, 1000 Hours

fomer). [ ] for Agriculture (which will be involved in the AID Project) noted that Agriculture does not now have a world mission", but the work envisioned "could generate such a mission, i.e., contributing to National Intelligence Estimates".

25X1

9. [ ] for ESSA noted their chief two areas of present interest were hydrology and oceanography, including snow-cover and sea-ice surveys. They would like to review more material. Noted that Index photography OK for cloud studies, may not be sufficiently good for sea-ice survey. At this point Tidwell noted that ways and means of sanitizing and reducing classification of Index photography were being considered.

25X1

10. [ ] for USGS noted their planned use of KI material for (a) Antarctic mapping, and (b) updating land use maps (now ten years behind schedule) and urban maps (now 5 to 50 years old). For the latter, KI material would be used to determine which areas should be flown by aircraft and most economically get unclassified material.

25X1

11. [ ] described OEP's program designed for contingency use of KI materials, and indicated OEP will come to the committee with requests for coverage of U.S. cities not presently available.

25X1

12. [ ] summarized: In next six months the committee will have as its primary objective, a series of papers of proposed studies reflecting the operational requirements of the participating "civilian agencies". He emphasized that such specifics are a necessary first step for further action.

25X1

13. Next meeting, Wednesday, 10 July 1968, 1000 hours. DIA (for Foreign Base Line Mapping), AID/Agriculture, and Interior will present briefings.

25X1

[ ]  
Assistant to Deputy Director, NPIC

Distribution:

Copies 1,6 - NPIC/ODIR      Copy 4 - NPIC/PSG  
          2 - NPIC/PPBS        5 - NPIC/TSSG  
          3 - NPIC/IEG