

ÇXEÇUTIVE (	CORRESPONDENCE	ROUTING SHEET	
1. CONTROL NUMBER: CRES-288/98		2. SUSPENSE DATE:	28 Sept 98
3. SUBJECT: Letter to State/INR		-	
4. ORIGINATION OFFICE:		5. DATE:	
DI/CRES CONTROL CONTRO	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	28 September 1998	-
6. PURPOSE:		,	
(U) To obtain DCI signature of	on letter to State/IN	TR.	
7. SUMMARY:		•	(b) (1) (b) (3)
Response to State/INR	regarding KH-7/KH-9.		
B. COORDINATION:			
	•		
). RECOMMENDATION:			
. RECOMMENDATION.			
Approval			
G. DATE IN 11, ROUTE TO	12: ACTION (Check & Box)	13. NONÇONCUR REASON	14. DATE OUT
C/CRES -	☐ SIGNATURE ☐ CONCUR ☐ ☐ CYFYI		
TITLE DDI Registry -	SIGNATURE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
TITLE OGG (- 1) SIGNATUR	☐ SIGNATURE ☐ CONCUR		
TITLE DDI -	SIGNATURE CONCUR		9/28
SIGNATURE EXREGISTRY - SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE CONCUR		
98-09-29 GNATUR	☐ SIGNATURE ☐ CONCUR X FYI	1998-09	-29  3;16 98
SEP DDCI - SIGNATURE	SIGNATURE CONCUR	full to	SEP 3
SED 1990 SIGNATURE	∑ SIGNATURE  ☐ CONCUR ☐ FYI	17	(COD)



# THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE WASHINGTON, N.C. 20505

30 September 1998

Mr. Edward G. Abington
Acting Assistant Secretary of State for
Intelligence and Research
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

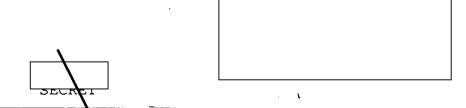
Dear Edward:

Thank you for your letter of 15 September in which you expressed the Department's views regarding
octential foreign sensitivities to the availability of
leclassified KH-7/KH-9 historical imagery, particularly that
produced by the KH-9 I also note your
ecommendation that I postpone a final decision on KH-9
film declassification until the Intelligence
Community has a chance to assess

As you know, the issue of blanket versus selective declassification of imagery from these systems is currently under consideration in the Historical Imagery Declassification Review (HIDR) process chaired by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency. I will certainly take the views you have conveyed to me into consideration when the HIDR completes its deliberations and forwards its recommendations to me.

Sincerely,

George J. Tenet





### Mr. Edward G. Abington

DI/CRES/ s:di\cres INR.doc cres-288/	c	
Distirbutio		
	- Addressee - DCI	
_	- DDCI	
	- EXDIR/CIA	
	- ADCI/CM	
	- DDS&T	
	- OIM/IRG	
	- NIMA/Tom Wolfe	
1	- C/CRES	
1	- DC/CRES	
_	- C	
	- C	
<del></del>	- <u>C</u> .	
	- Executive Registry	
1	- DDI Registry	
1	- Chrono	



# United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 15, 1998

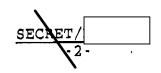
Dear George,

The Department supports the ongoing Historical Imagery Declassification Review that the Intelligence Community (IC) has undertaken at your direction. INR has coordinated this issue broadly within the Department with a focus on overall USG policy on foreign access to space remote sensing and the management of foreign reaction to the broader availability of high quality satellite imagery.

We believe that all the KH-9 mapping camera film can be declassified immediately without risk. We also believe
the KH-7 film may be declassified except
This would offer several advantages. We would be able
to confirm that no unanticipated extreme foreign reaction
would cause the USG to restrict commercial imaging
<u> </u>

Mr. George C. Tenet
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C.

CLASSIFIED BY: Edward C. Abington, INR A/S, Accing REASON: 1.5 (c)(d)



declassification of KH-9 photography over such areas.
Blanket declassification, as was done with the KH-1-6, is the easiest to defend because it does not presume that foreign governments should incur security risks that we are not prepared to incur ourselves.
The Department believes that the advantages of blanket

declassification should be carefully weighed in considerations given to withholding any KH-9 photography to avoid US security risks. Of course, if imagery is identified that truly presents a continuing threat to US national security, the Department will support withholding such imagery from declassification. T

Blanket

declassification, if national security issues are not, in fact, compromised by such action, would allow us to take a consistent position that this photography does not, on balance, pose a security threat that outweighs its benefits to civil applications and public research.

Edward Shiften

Edward G. Abington, Acting Assistant Secretary

4383A

: 1-92

(EF)

#### ICLASSIFICATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED

## SECURE FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM

DATE: 9-24-98 SENDING SECURE/FAX TELEPHONE NUMBER: RECEIVING SECURE/FAX TELEPHONE NUMBER: NUMBER OF PAGES (Including Transmittal Form and Coversheet, if applicable) FROM: (Name / Office / Extension) SUBJECT: TO: (ADDRESSEE/ORGANIZATION/OFFICE/EXTENSION) 1. 7. 3. 10. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: RELEASING OFFICIAL: (PRINTED NAME) (SIGNATURE) RECEIVING STATION USE ONLY 'lease receipt for material by entering time of receipt/signature and transmit back to sending station. HATE / TIME: SIGNATURE: CORM

ICLASSIFICATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED!



SEP 2 1 1858

# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT ROUTING SLIP

		ACTION	INFO			ACTION	INFO
. :==	DCI		X	11	OPA		
	DDCI	·	X	12	DDA		
	DDCI/CM			13	DDI		
	ADCI/MS			14	DDO		
	EXDIR/CIA		X	15	DDS&T		X
	CHMN/NIC			16	OIMIRG	X	
	IG			17	DS&T/IRO		X
	GC			18	ADCI/Coll		X
	COMPT			19	NIMA/Tom Wolfe		X
<u>;                                    </u>				20			

:			011101110						
	IG	17	DS&T/IRO		X				
······································	GC	18	ADCI/Coll		X				
	COMPT	19	NIMA/Tom Wolfe		X				
5	OCA	20							
SISI	S ISPENSE DATE: 9/27/98								
	DOCUMENT NO: ER 98-3774								
Gonta	Contact regarding suspense items.								
C IORDINATION/ROUTING: C M/IRG to take the lead in preparing response with DS&T/IRO and coordinate as appropriate for DCI si [nature.									
Silmmary: Litter from Edward G. Abington, Acting Assistant Secretary of INR regarding KH-9 photography. Abington a gues that the advantages of blanket declassification should be carefully weighed and consideration given to withholding any KH-9 photography to avoid security risks.  Ditte: 17 September, 1998 Riceived in ER: 16 September, 1998 A tion Officer:									
					•				

ER Due 9/27
probable, make it
asthuhich is Monoey
Good Cuck

