

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS	X			
5	DDI		X		
6	DDA				
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T		X		
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/EEO				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/OEA				
16	C/PAD/OEA				
17	SA/IA				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPD/OIS				
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21					
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SUSPENSE		14 April Date			

Remarks:

Please prepare response
for DCI's signature.

NRO Review
Completed.

7 April 1982
Date

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TOP SECRET**(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE**

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

April 6, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
THE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

SUBJECT: US Commercial Participation in Foreign Satellite
Reconnaissance Ventures

[redacted] recently contacted an
NRO contractor and expressed an interest in contractually teaming on a
potential [redacted] satellite program. The contractor has
expressed an interest in exploring the possibility of such a joint venture.
They would not use any BYEMAN technology.

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The NRO has responded in the past to contractor requests for advice on
the question of participation in foreign reconnaissance satellite programs
by:

a. Offering to have CIA [redacted] make direct contact with the contractor,
after agreement by both parties. NRO involvement has been limited to
the initial contract.

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b. Prohibiting the use of any BYEMAN technology.

c. Reminding the contractor to comply with all federal export licensing
(ITAR) requirements.

NRO advice provided to contractors has been predicated on a general impression
of current US objectives regarding foreign space intelligence operations
and has tended to discourage any participation. I am concerned that
future NRO responses might subsequently turn out to be inconsistent with
government objectives regarding intelligence collaboration with a particular
nation and could potentially impair the competitive posture of US contractors.
The rapidly improving remote sensing technology suggests that foreign
requests for US commercial participation in foreign ventures will increase.

It is clear that the NRO has no responsibility [redacted]
[redacted] but it is not clear
what mechanism or channel should be used to determine current national
policy under such a circumstance. I do plan to prohibit NRO contractors
from using any BYEMAN technology on any foreign reconnaissance satellite
venture unless there is a specific government-to-government agreement

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for the program. DCI guidelines or DCI approved procedures are needed which would enable a prompt response to our contractors and insure cooperative contractors do not decline to bid on ventures which might subsequently be authorized, encouraged or sponsored by the US government.

In the absence of a formal mechanism, I propose to refer any future contractor requests for a government opinion to the DCI for appropriate interagency resolution. I would appreciate your views or guidance in this area.

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REVW: 6 APR 2002

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