

Earth Satellite

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55-2460

10 October 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : CIA Support for Earth Satellite Program

1. I would like to make the following suggestions as to the scale of support by the CIA to the earth satellite program.

a. We should agree, subject to Bureau of the Budget concurrence, to provide [redacted] in the current fi

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
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b. We should undertake to provide further funds in the latter part of this fiscal year if, and only if, you decide to seek a supplemental appropriation from the Congress. This action is feasible as approved by the Bureau of the Budget, and the requested appropriation is actually voted by the Congress.

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
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c. We should undertake to provide [redacted] more in Fiscal Year 1957.

EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

2. In explanation of what may appear to be a rather generous proposal, I can only repeat arguments that were advanced in the meeting of 6 October.

a. There is no doubt in my mind that the satellite program is not justified as a purely military venture, and it seems to me legitimate that the Department of Defense should ask those arms of the Government that are concerned with non-military aspects of the cold war to give significant financial support to an undertaking which they supported and one of the purposes of which is to accomplish non-military results.

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3. I offer these specific comments on the proposal in paragraph 1 above.

a. The total CIA contribution [redacted] EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
[redacted] seems to me not unreasonable [redacted] EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
on the basis of the argument in paragraph 2 above or as subscription to
the common stock in an enterprise in which you wish to acquire and main-
tain a continuing interest.

[redacted] EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

4. In closing, I might point out that no important issue of national financial policy is here involved since the decision has been made to proceed with the satellite and the only question at issue is where a given sum of money is to come.

[redacted] EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs
[redacted] EO 13526 3.3(b)(1)>25Yrs

I place so high a value as a citizen on the Pentagon's research and development project that I have tried to be objective in the above recommendation.

(sgd) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Special Assistant to the Director
for Planning and Coordination

cc: DD/S ✓
DD/I

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