MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Management of the U-2R Fleet

As you know, the Air Force’s U-2R fleet has been under considerable operational and resource pressure to satisfy current mission needs. These present needs include important photographic reconnaissance missions, photographic reconnaissance of Cuba, and significant efforts in support of the NRP. Recently conceived requirements also appear to have merit and will serve to increase the pressures on currently available assets.

I believe that more efficient efforts toward satisfying these requirements could be made if all U-2R’s were consolidated under a single manager. Such consolidation would also eliminate duplicative administrative and managerial functions. I estimate that the savings accrued from consolidation (in terms of procurement avoidance and eliminated redundancies) could amount to over $40M.

Accordingly, I propose that all U-2R’s, including those under CIA management, be placed under the central management of the Air Force. If you agree, I believe the consolidation could be completed by November or December of this year. I am convinced that through this consolidation we can perform the top priority missions with maximum efficiency. Of course their consolidation would be subject to 40 Committee approval.