Enclosed is a decision memo from Sandy Berger recommending that you sign the attached Presidential Decision Directive allowing for the expanded sale of images taken from space. Under the PDD, U.S. companies licensed by the Commerce Department could sell such images to foreign and domestic customers. In addition, the State Department could license the export of the satellite systems. National security concerns would be protected by specific conditions in the licenses.

This PDD would allow the U.S. to compete more effectively in a fast-growing international market and would consequently be very popular with business.

This memo was initially cleared through on March 3, but then pulled back when first State and then DOD raised objections. Their problems have now been resolved and all relevant agencies have cleared the PDD, as have all relevant White House offices.

If you approve, please sign the attached PDD.

Todd Stern