

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



3 OCT 1960

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCDS

SUBJECT: (U) Unauthorized Disclosure of Classified Information
(The SAMOS Reconnaissance Satellite)

TO: AFCCS

1. Reference is made to your memorandum to The Inspector General, 28 September 1960, referring to a paper given to the Secretary of Defense by Congressman William E. Miller of New York (Tab 1). This paper contains classified information and appears to have emanated from Bell Aerosystems, Niagara Falls, New York. An investigation has been initiated.

2. You may also recall that essentially the same information as that contained in the referenced attachment was, with some elaboration, contained in an article in the 19 September 1960 issue of Aviation Week Magazine under the caption, "New Capsule to be Developed for SAMOS."

3. In view of the personal contact of the Secretary of Defense by Congressman Miller, and in further view of the fact that investigation should necessarily entail an interview of the Congressman and subsequent interviews at Bell Aircraft, Mr. Burke, General Counsel, OSD, was advised of the Air Force's desire to conduct an investigation, directed not only toward resolving the apparent security violation in the paper furnished by Congressman Miller, but to determine whether there might be some connection between this unauthorized disclosure and the more widespread disclosure made by Aviation Week Magazine. Subsequently, Mr. Burke advised that the Secretary of Defense had authorized the investigation, but had asked Mr. Burke to inform the Congressman prior to the Air Force making inquiries either of him or of personnel at Bell. This has resulted in some delay, as the Congressman has been travelling about the country in connection with the current political campaign and attempts to contact him have thus far been unsuccessful. Mr. Burke will talk to Congressman Miller as soon as possible and advise us of the outcome.

*Thomas D. White Papers
Library of Congress
Box 36
"4-5 Missiles/Space/Nuclear"*

4. As a matter of information, the Secretary of Defense wrote Congressman Miller a letter 19 October 1960, in which he referred to this matter and told the Congressman that he would be contacted by Mr. Burke (Tab 2).

5. Upon advice of Mr. Burke that he has made the prerequisite contact with Congressman Miller, this investigation will be completed as expeditiously as its sensitivity will permit.

John M. Breit
JOHN M. BREIT
Brigadier General, U.S. Air Force
Deputy Inspector General for Security
The Inspector General

2 Atch
1. Memo fr Gen White to TIG,
dtd 28 Sep 60, w/atch
2. Ltr fr SecDef to Congr
Miller, dtd 19 Oct 60

001-0 050372

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-4.32

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