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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

9 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PLUMMER

SUBJECT: Committee for Civil Applications

At the right is a proposed input to Dr. Hall on the memorandum covering the Committee for Civil Applications of KH photography. In late August, Dr. Elliott, of the NSC, asked us to review the draft memorandum. As you will recall, we did not offer any objection, but we did point out to Dr. Elliott the need to retain certain classifications. Our impression of the memorandum is that the photography will be retained at the SECRET level until sanitized but the information from the photography will generally be unclassified.

When the committee begins its function, we can expect pressures to develop for increasing the percentage of film applied for U.S. civil photography. Typically, most of the present U.S. photo operations are associated with our engineering ops for calibration, estimates of resolution and the like. We could conceivably need to increase the number of flights, for example, if a dramatic need for civil photography develops, with the civilian agencies funding the increase. It will be interesting to witness the impact of this committee if it functions aggressively. We think that DOD should be an observer on the committee to balance out the civil-oriented Corps of Engineers' input. DIA or NRO might be candidate observers.

[REDACTED]
Lt Colonel, USAF
[REDACTED]

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