MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

May 4, 1992

SUBJECT: Overt/Covert Taskings to Security and General Counsel

On May 4, 1992, a meeting was held with NRO Security and General Counsel to initiate taskings for creating an Overt/Covert Implementation Plan. The following individuals were in attendance:

Jim Zirkle

The following items were assigned for action to the individuals indicated. The items are to be considered by the individuals in the context of the implications when the NRO goes overt according to the model described in another memorandum: "Board of Directors Overt/Covert Guidance 1 May 1992" (forwarded separately). Action officers should consider the solutions/options available, and recommend the best solution to continue the NRO mission in light of overt recognition of the organization and mission. Contained within each subject is the implication that the NRO will be challenged on the classification of each item where continued classification/compartmentation is the best solution, and the assumption that the NRO will defend classification in the courts, if necessary. Also, the damage assessments, if any, inflicted by the change in classification should be noted/explained as well as acceptable alternate ways of doing the same thing and why they were rejected as solutions. All items should be in at least interim draft by the next meeting 15 MAY 1000 - 1200 in room [redacted].

FOIA (Jim Zirkle) - a general discussion of our current situation, how it will change, what the NRO would require in the way of waiver/exemptions/exceptions from FOIA, the unique problems posed by FOIA (e.g. are satellite photographs stored by the NRO susceptible to requests), and resource implications (if known).
LITIGATION (Jim Zirkle) - how litigation is handled today, by whom (CIA?), how we expect (or want) it to be handled in the future, resource implications, and any damage to NRO operations or sources and methods we can determine.

PUBLIC PROFILE - what are we going to say about the organization, individuals, functions, titles, etc. Where do we draw the line on protection of the organization and people?

PUBLIC AFFAIRS (Renee Strickland) - how do we handle public affairs (through OSD, SAF, CIA), should we have NRO people in public affairs office, who should be overt spokesman for NRO (only Mr. Faga, only Public Affairs officer, other)

NRO PENTAGON OFFICE - profile, procedures, physical security changes, etc.

WESTFIELDS (others) - profile, public statements, physical security, access control, etc.

DSPO/DRSP "SATELLITE" INVOLVEMENT - unclassified association of satellites with DSPO/DRSP

PHYSICAL SECURITY FOR ACKNOWLEDGED NRO BUILDINGS ((Westfields, (Pentagon)), Program Offices ((Program Office facilities))) - reassess need for physical changes based on acknowledgement

PERSONNEL PROTECTION FOR NRO MANAGERS (Phil Pounds) - assess need for protection for key NRO managers.

CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIP - assess need for change in relationship generally and in those cases where contractors are present at known NRO location

UNCLASSIFIED "FACT OF" NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM - impact of "fact of" NRP being unclassified

REWRITE OF NATIONAL SPACE POLICY - Rewrite NSD 30 to acknowledge some additional "fact of" and "facts about" satellite reconnaissance and NRO as single USG organization responsible for satellite reconnaissance.

DECOMPARTMENT "FACT OF" CERTAIN NRP SYSTEMS AND LIMITED SYSTEM
FACTS — which systems, which facts
CHARTER — Need for new charter, what kind, contents, how to get approved
COMPLIANCE/NON-COMPLIANCE WITH DOD DIRECTIVES — how does NRO handle DoD pressure to conform to DoD Directives

OTHER

The following additional items for consideration were not discussed at the meeting with Security, but should be addressed by the organization/individuals named.

HUMAN RELATIONS - STAFFING BY PARENT AGENCIES; CONSIDERATIONS IN CITING NRO IN PERFORMANCE REPORTS, ADDITIONAL STAFFING REQUIRED

BUDGET - AFFECT OF OVERTNESS, UNCLASSIFIED "FACT OF" NRP

UNASSIGNED ITEMS

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS - NRO assumes Operations and Maintenance costs because other organizations withdraw support

IMPACT, IF ANY, ON SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

FOREIGN RELATIONS - Impact, if any, when foreign countries have USG confirmation that we are performing satellite reconnaissance against them or their neighbors;

DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUES - Percentage of NRO business by State and District, additions to NRP for Congressionally directed projects, etc.

CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT - Plans, procedures, process for classifying, paragraph marking, data base for what has been declassified and/or publicly released

SECRET
If anyone can think of any other topics to add to this list or other implications of going overt please advise Renee Strickland or [redacted].