



Office of the Director 7

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NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

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7 April 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY/CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE

Ken

SUBJECT: Redirection of POPPY Declassification

~~(S/R)~~ Late in 1997, we jointly directed that an assessment be made of the feasibility for declassifying the POPPY satellite program, the successor program to the DYNO/Galactic Radiation Background (DYNO/GRAB) program, developed by the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). A POPPY declassification team with National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) and National Security Agency (NSA) co-chairs, established an Integrated Process Team (IPT) involving all the appropriate organizations, as well as those from NRL, to begin the declassification process. The IPT product will be a set of documentation for the Director, Central Intelligence (DCI) to review and approve for POPPY declassification.

~~(S/R)~~ The NRL's 75th Jubilee Anniversary is scheduled to take place this June. The POPPY declassification team will address the DYNO/GRAB program, the precursor to the POPPY program with its origin and strong ties to NRL, in the overall POPPY declassification process. It may be problematic to get DCI POPPY declassification approval in time for the NRL 75th anniversary simply because of available time. Therefore, I have asked the IPT to separate the DYNO/GRAB program from the overall POPPY declassification effort with the hope that we can expedite the process and support the NRL anniversary celebration. The overall effort to declassify the POPPY program will of course continue.

(U) I am confident that the decision to separate the declassification of these programs will meet with your approval. Mr. Dennis Fitzgerald and [redacted] the IPT co-sponsors concur with this approach and I believe we should make every prudent effort to support the NRL anniversary.

CL BY: [redacted]
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(U) If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call me.

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Keith R. Hall

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