

23 MAY 2012  
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NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

14675 Lee Road  
Chantilly, VA 20151-1715



Office of the Director

2 June 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: (U) Decision to Declassify GAMBIT and HEXAGON Programs

(U) Effective this date, I approve the phased declassification of the GAMBIT and HEXAGON film return satellite imagery reconnaissance programs. This action excludes consideration of film, which is under the purview of the Director, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

(U) The declassification of these programs will be phased, to include: (1) approval of the National Reconnaissance Office's (NRO) GAMBIT and HEXAGON declassification guidance; (2) the immediate declassification of GAMBIT and HEXAGON hardware to facilitate preparation, transportation, and storage of the artifacts; and (3) security education and associated notifications. During this initial phase all GAMBIT and HEXAGON program information--including hardware, documents, and records--will be treated as UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY in preparation for their public release. **No public release is authorized before 17 September 2011.**

(U) I direct the following actions by the indicated individuals:

a. (U) Director, Management Services and Operations Directorate to take the necessary steps to implement this decision with regard to GAMBIT and HEXAGON program records, to include ensuring the coordination of the declassification guidance with the Intelligence Community before approving it;

b. (U) Director, Business Plans and Operations Directorate to take the necessary steps to implement this decision with regard to GAMBIT and HEXAGON artifacts, to include declassifying specific artifacts; and


c. (U) Director, Office of Security and Counterintelligence and Director, Imagery Intelligence Systems Acquisition Security to initiate a security education and notification program to inform and prepare the NRO workforce about this change in classification policy and, through established channels, notify Congress, Commonwealth allies, and industry.

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NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
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(U) My point of contact for declassification actions is Stephen R. Glenn, Information and Access Release Team. He is available at 703-227-9128 or b6 (secure).

  
Bruce Carlson

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Principal Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office  
Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office  
Senior Enlisted Advisor/Command Chief  
Director, Advanced Systems and Technology Directorate  
Director, Business Plans and Operations Directorate  
Director, Communications Systems Directorate  
Director, Ground Enterprise Directorate  
Director, Imagery Intelligence Systems Acquisition Directorate  
Director, Management Services and Operations Directorate  
Director, Mission Operations Directorate  
Director, Mission Support Directorate  
Director, Signals Intelligence Systems Acquisition Directorate  
Director, Systems Engineering Directorate  
Director, Office of Space Launch  
Director, Special Communications Office  
Chief Information Officer  
Director, Office of Contracts  
Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity  
Management  
General Counsel  
Director, Office of Inspector General  
Director, Office of Policy and Strategy  
Director, Office of Security and Counterintelligence  
Director, Office of Strategic Human Capital  
Associate Deputy, Mission Support Directorate and Senior  
National Security Agency Officer  
Associate Deputy, Mission Support Directorate and Senior  
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Officer  
Director, Executive Secretariat  
Director, Corporate Secretariat

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