

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Deputy General Counsel

OGC 92-52499  
15 September 1992

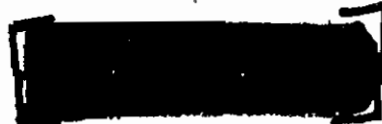
NOTE FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
SUBJECT: Memorandum Re NRO Reclassification

Herewith for your signature is a memorandum to the Secretary of Defense regarding the declassification and public acknowledgement of the existence of the NRO.

We have coordinated this language with DoD General Counsel David Addington. Jim Hirsch has also seen this and concurs.

**APPROVED FOR RELEASE**

11/00



Attachment

①

15 September 1992

**MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of Defense****SUBJECT: Declassification of Specified Information  
Relating to the National Reconnaissance  
Office**

1. Pursuant to the last proviso of Section 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947 and Section 4.2(a) of Executive Order 12356, I have determined that the following information relating to the National Reconnaissance Office no longer requires, and therefore no longer shall have, protection under a designated special access control system:

(a) There is a National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) organized as an agency of the Department of Defense and funded through a program known as the National Reconnaissance Program (NRP), which is the single, national program to meet U.S. Government intelligence needs through spaceborne and assigned airborne reconnaissance.

(b) The mission of the NRO is to ensure that the U.S. has the technology and spaceborne and airborne assets needed to acquire intelligence world-wide, including to support such functions as monitoring of arms control agreements, indications and warning and the planning and conduct of military operations. The NRO accomplishes the mission through research and development, acquisition, and operation of spaceborne and airborne data collection systems.

(c) The Secretary of Defense has the ultimate responsibility, which is exercised in concert with the Director of Central Intelligence, for management and operation of the NRO and the Director of the NRO reports to the Secretary. The Director of Central Intelligence establishes the collection priorities and requirements for the targeting of NRP operations and the frequency of

**APPROVED FOR RELEASE**

11/00

CL BY: Signer  
DECL: Unclassified When  
Final Declassification  
Action is Taken by DCI [REDACTED]  
and Secretary of Defense

X59831 (2)  
Sec Def Cont Nr. \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT: Declassification of Specified Information Relating  
to the National Reconnaissance Office**

coverage, approves along with the Secretary of Defense the NRP budget, provides security policy guidance for the NRP, and guides and participates in the formulation of the NRP through the Director of the NRO. The Director of the NRO has responsibility for executing the NRO's programs, which the Director accomplishes through the Department of Defense and Central Intelligence Agency.

(d) The Director of the NRO is Martin C. Faga. The Deputy Director of the NRO is Mr. Jimmie D. Hill. The Deputy Director of NRO for Military Support is Rear Admiral Daniel P. March, USN.

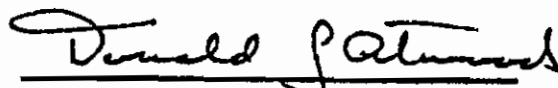
(e) The mailing address of the Director of the NRO is:

The Honorable Martin C. Faga  
Director  
National Reconnaissance Office  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301 - 1000

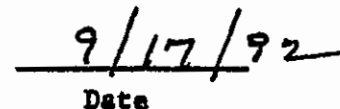
2. I recommend that we declassify the above information. In my judgment, disclosure of the information would not cause damage to the national security.

  
Robert M. Gates

Based on the above determination, judgment, and recommendation of the Director of Central Intelligence, and pursuant to the authority delegated by Executive Order 12356, including Section 3.1(b), the classified information in paragraphs (a) through (e) above is hereby declassified.



Donald J. Atwood  
Acting Secretary of Defense

  
Date