

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ARGO Committee Meeting, 16 June 1968. Executive Office
Building, Room 303, 1000 Hours

1. Agency participants:

Office of Science and Technology
Chairman
Agriculture - Archibald B. Park
Commerce (ESSA) - David S. Johnson
Interior (USCS) - John M. DeNoyer
NASA - Leonard A. Jaffe
OEP - Harry Mallon
State/AID - John D. Wilkes, Kenneth Vernon
Transportation - Frank Lehan

DCI Representative. COMIREX -
COMIREX Staff -
DIA - Col. L. L. Rall
NRO - William Williamson
NPIC -

2. This was the first meeting of a reconstituted committee to consider "civilian agencies" use of KH satellite materials, a follow-up of the ARGO exercise of last year.

3. Steininger noted that the President had been informed about the contents of the ARGO Report and the possibilities indicated therein that the results were exploratory, and that follow-up was planned. The President approves of the course of action.

4. Hornig will write a letter to the participating agencies stating what he thinks purpose of committee is. He will say function is to: (1) collect and consolidate the views and needs of the "civilian agencies" for KI photography, (2) make these known to the intelligence community, and (3) discuss with the

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fomer). Park for Agriculture (which will be involved in the AID Project) noted that "Agriculture does not now have a world mission", but the work envisioned "could generate such a mission, i.e., contributing to National Intelligence Estimates".

9. Johnson for ESSA noted their chief two areas of present interest were hydrology and oceanography, including snow cover and sea-ice surveys. They would like to review more material. Noted that Index photography OK for cloud studies, may not be sufficiently good for sea-ice survey. At this point Tidwell noted that ways and means of sanitizing and reducing classification of Index photography were being considered.

10. John DeNoyer for USGS noted their planned use of KI material for (a) Antarctic mapping, and (b) updating land use maps (now ten years behind schedule) and urban maps (now 5 to 50 years old). For the latter, KI material would be used to determine which areas should be flown by aircraft and most economically get unclassified material.

11. described OEP's program designed for contingency use of KI materials, and indicated OEP will come to the committee with requests for coverage of U.S. cities not presently available.

12. summarized: In next six months the committee will have as its primary objective, a series of papers of proposed studies reflecting the operational requirements of the participating "civilian agencies". He emphasized that such specifics are a necessary first step for further action.

13. Next meeting, Wednesday, 10 July 1968, 1000 hours. DIA (for Foreign Base Line Mapping), AID/Agriculture, and Interior will present briefings.

Assistant to Deputy Director, NPIC

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