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DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE Washington, DC 20511

E/S 00705 ·

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General Bruce Carlson, USAF (Ret.)

Director, National Reconnaissance Office

SUBJECT:

(U//FOUO) Declassification of GAMBIT and HEXAGON

Program Names

REFERENCES:

a. (U) D/NRO Memorandum dated 13 August 2010 (NRO

Concerns)

b. (U) Acting DNI Memorandum E/S 00408 dated 27 July 2010

(Acting DNI declass decision)

(U) This responds to your memorandum regarding Acting DNI Gompert's 27 July 2010 memorandum related to the declassification of the GAMBIT and HEXAGON satellite systems. (ref b).

(U//FOSQ) You requested clarification of the language in the July 27 memorandum which stated that the DNI will make final declassification decisions regarding satellite programmatic data. The declassification of the GAMBIT and HEXAGON satellite programs will impact numerous Intelligence Community elements for years to come and there was some concern that the requisite level of coordination did not take place prior to seeking Acting DNI Gompert's concurrence. The purpose of the July memorandum was to emphasize the need for coordination across the intelligence enterprise.

(U//FOVQ) I agree that decisions on the details of NRO information are best left to the NRO declassification subject matter expens. It was not our intent to reduce or minimize D/NRO original classification authority as delegated by the DNI in accordance with EO 13526. Given your clear commitment to closely coordinate any future declassification decisions with the ODNI and the affected Intelligence Community elements I concur that future declassification decisions should be made by the D/NRO.

(U) My POC for this issue is John Hackett, Director of Information Management

b2, b6

Jalnes R. Clapper

Date

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