

UNCLASSIFIED
CR

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

1

To sec 5 eyes

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

31 AUG 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF, USAF

SUBJECT: Declassification of DSAP Data

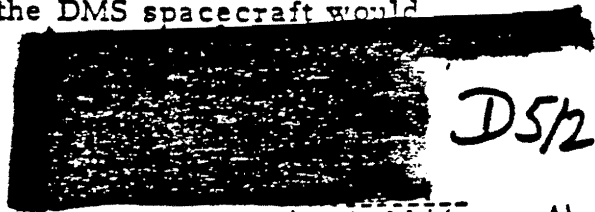
As you are aware, I have been appointed by Secretary Rush to work out methods of improved cooperation with NOAA in using data generated by weather satellites. At present NOAA receives little benefit from our own classified meteorological satellite system (DSAP). Before we can provide NOAA routine support from the DSAP we must declassify the data and alter our security policy.

The following course of action is offered to declassify DSAP data:

"Upon launch of DSAP vehicle 6530 in November 1972, all DSAP data would be unclassified except for sensitive specialized tasking that would reveal military operations. Vehicle 6530 would be termed the first operational Defense Meteorological Satellite (DMS) at time of launch. Previous launchings would be identified as required as R&D efforts. The unclassified mission of DMS would be (1) gathering of global information in support of worldwide military commitments and (2) local tactical support through direct encrypted transmission to deployed tactical forces.

The primary global information is two nautical mile resolution visual and infrared data which will be available to NOAA, unclassified, through the Air Force Global Weather Central. The primary tactical information is high resolution (one-third nautical mile) visual and infrared data. Mainly intended for direct readout, a limited amount of high resolution data are stored on tape recorders for subsequent transmission to the Air Force Global Weather Central. High resolution data over the continental US and adjacent waters would be routinely available to NOAA, unclassified, as well as other regions on an as-requested, as-available basis (e. g., tracking of tropical storms which are a potential hazard to the US). In addition, automated analyses using all available weather data are available to NOAA. Technical details of the DMS spacecraft would remain SECRET."

UNCLASSIFIED

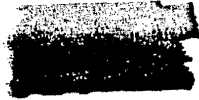


DS/2

Atach 8e

(Same as Atach

UNCLASSIFIED



L

I would appreciate your comments on this proposed action by 15 September. This will permit required declassification actions and public releases to be accomplished by 25 October in support of the November launch date.

John L. McLucas
John L. McLucas



UNCLASSIFIED



Attach 8e (same as Attach

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

31 AUG 1972

ACTION
RDS
SUSPENSE
DATE
13 SEP
INFO:
RDS
RDS

UP 2

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF, USAF

SUBJECT: Declassification of DSAP Data

As you are aware, I have been appointed by Secretary Rush to work out methods of improved cooperation with NOAA in using data generated by weather satellites. At present NOAA receives little benefit from our own classified meteorological satellite system (DSAP). Before we can provide NOAA routine support from the DSAP we must declassify the data and alter our security policy.

The following course of action is offered to declassify DSAP data:

"Upon launch of DSAP vehicle 6530 in November 1972, all DSAP data would be unclassified except for sensitive specialized tasking that would reveal military operations. Vehicle 6530 would be termed the first operational Defense Meteorological Satellite (DMS) at time of launch. Previous launchings would be identified as required as R&D efforts. The unclassified mission of DMS would be (1) gathering of global information in support of worldwide military commitments and (2) local tactical support through direct encrypted transmission to deployed tactical forces.

The primary global information is two nautical mile resolution visual and infrared data which will be available to NOAA, unclassified, through the Air Force Global Weather Central. The primary tactical information is high resolution (one-third nautical mile) visual and infrared data. Mainly intended for direct readout, a limited amount of high resolution data are stored on tape recorders for subsequent transmission to the Air Force Global Weather Central. High resolution data over the continental US and adjacent waters would be routinely available to NOAA, unclassified, as well as other regions on an as-requested, as-available basis (e. g., tracking of tropical storms which are a potential hazard to the US). In addition, automated analyses using all available weather data are available to NOAA. Technical details of the DMS spacecraft would remain SECRET."

Atach 3



Original 161
with 25 sep 72
7/555
7/5



UNCLASSIFIED

I would appreciate your comments on this proposed action by 15 September. This will permit required declassification actions and public releases to be accomplished by 25 October in support of the November launch date.

John L. McLucas
John L. McLucas

Atach 3

UNCLASSIFIED

2743