



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

14 August 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

SUBJECT: Declassification Activities (U) - INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

~~(S-R)~~ Now that the "fact of" SIGINT from space is public information and a wide variety of declassification activities are in process, I believe that it is time to accelerate putting certain cryptologic systems into the public record. One example of immediate interest is the POPPY program.

~~(S-R)~~ This program is unique in several important aspects:

- it presents great examples of both the innovative use of satellite technology to extend the Navy's reconnaissance capability and the use of its service laboratory (NRL) in important cryptologic programs, and

- it is also our best early example of service cryptologic professionals being completely integrated into the overhead reconnaissance program.

~~(FOUO)~~ I understand that declassification reviews are in progress within the community, but I think we should put emphasis on this program. I specifically propose that the National Cryptologic Museum (NCM), in coordination with the historical organizations of the Navy, be authorized to tell this story with the public display of selected program artifacts and materials. The NCM is in the process of developing new exhibits and this program would be a perfect object. Hopefully, more would follow this example.

(U) You may wish to consider using knowledgeable individuals associated with the NCM Foundation, Inc., to assist in declassification efforts as I am using them to assist in the creation of new exhibits. There may be other things which can be done to speed up the process. I am sure the Navy is more than willing to help. Please let me know what I can do to assist you in this area.

VR
LR
KENNETH A. MINIHAN
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

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