

OFFICE OF THE
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
JOINT MILITARY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY)

P.1

~~SECRET / EYEMAN~~

DATE: April 10, 1998

Memorandum For Senior Civilian Official in OASD(C3I)

Through: (Acting) DASD (I&S) OPR 4/12/98 *Agree with declassification*
PD (IWSCIT) OPR

SUBJECT: Declassification of GRAB Information

PURPOSE: To obtain concurrence for initial release of GRAB information

DISCUSSION: GRAB was the first overhead ELINT program (1958 to 1962). NRO seeks DCI approval for the declassification and release of certain information concerning the GRAB program in time for the 75th Anniversary of the Naval Research Laboratories (NRL) in June. This release is being coordinated by the National SIIGNT Committee. Details on GRAB and the declassification process are at (TAB B).

DIRNSA initiated a proposal in 1997 to declassify the POPPY ELINT satellite reconnaissance program under PDD-49/NSC-49 and EO 12958. GRAB was the proof-of-concept program for POPPY. The declassification effort has two phases: first, release of some GRAB information for the NRL anniversary and then release of additional GRAB and POPPY information.

This proposal is in accord with current declassification policy. Still sensitive capabilities and technologies, as well as foreign relations concerns are appropriately protected.

RECOMMENDATION: Review and sign the memorandum at TAB A.

~~DCI~~
~~NSA~~
~~FOR~~
~~OPR~~
cc: DDP
EXReg

Trevor Tunnickliff
Trevor Tunnickliff
OASD(C3I) NSA Liaison

Coordination:

Dir, Security Programs OPR

(Full Remark)

Derived From: NRO Classification Guide
Declassify on: X1

Prepared by: Trevor Tunnickliff, DASD (I&S), 697-6987 *TR*

~~SECRET / EYEMAN~~

*Orig returned
to AIC, 4/16/98*

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