

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

E/S 00399

MEMORANDUM FOR: VADM Robert Murrett, USN  
Director, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Gen Bruce Carlson, USAF (Ret.)  
Director, National Reconnaissance Office

SUBJECT: Re-establishment of Program for Review of Imagery  
From Space-Based National Intelligence Reconnaissance  
Systems

REFERENCE: Executive Order 12951, *Release of Imagery Acquired  
by Space-Based National Intelligence Reconnaissance  
Systems*

The purpose of this memorandum is to re-establish the Director of National Intelligence's (DNI) comprehensive program for the periodic review of all space-based national intelligence reconnaissance systems to determine whether to release to the public imagery that is acquired by those systems, pursuant to Executive Order 12951.

The Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (DNGA) will serve as the accountable official for developing, implementing, and managing the program. DNGA's responsibilities include recommending to the DNI decisions to declassify imagery from space-based national intelligence reconnaissance systems, including a system the DNI has deemed obsolete, consistent with the interests of national defense and foreign policy. DNGA will ensure that imagery from obsolete systems is reviewed for release against a specific timetable, using the standards for damage to national security in Executive Order 13526, *Classified National Security Information*. In managing the program, DNGA will consult with the Department of State and the Department of Defense, and other affected Intelligence Community elements as appropriate. DNGA will annually report to the DNI by 1 October on the program's implementation, while ensuring that review of all applicable imagery is completed on a continual basis.

DNGA, with the support of the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (DNRO), will develop and implement a methodology for reviewing space-based national intelligence reconnaissance systems and recommend to the DNI any decision to deem a system obsolete, as appropriate. This review will not address declassification of the space-based systems themselves or of associated technical or programmatic characteristics. Those declassification decisions rest with DNRO, as the Original Classification Authority, in coordination with the DNI as appropriate.

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Questions concerning this memorandum should be directed to David R. Shedd, Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Policy, Plans, and Requirements at 703-275-3710.

Dennis Blair  
Dennis C. Blair

5/26/10  
Date

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National Intelligence Reconnaissance Systems**

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