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Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 U.S.C. §552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
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30 JUN 1976

209-Space

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Operational Requirements for Satellite Monitoring of the Earth's Space Environment

Reference is made to JCSM-370-70, dated 31 July 1970 with Annex thereto, subject as above (Atch 1). It has now been six years since the last formal review and update of these requirements. During that time, several space environmental satellites of the SOLRAD series have been launched, including SOLRAD-HI (SOLRAD-11) earlier this year. The Navy will soon begin an operational evaluation of the SOLRAD-11 data, and the results of this evaluation will be a major factor in deciding whether to close out the program, continue it as an experimental effort, or push for an operational system.

Another input I consider necessary to that decision is an updated, coordinated statement of operational requirements. Over the past six years, there have been significant changes in many of the communications, early warning, and other types of systems requiring space environmental support. Collection of space environmental data by ground sensors has improved. SAFEGUARD, a potentially important user of such data, has been cancelled. In view of these facts, it is a near certainty that some of these requirements have changed and some are obsolete. It is also possible that new ones may have arisen. I therefore request that the Joint Chiefs review the Operational Requirements for Satellite Monitoring of the Earth's Space Environment, update the list, and submit the new list to this office.

Request a reply by September 1, 1976.

s/ Malcolm R. Currie

Malcolm R. Currie

Attachment
JCSM-370-70, 31 July 1970 with Annex thereto
LTC WCScott, III, USAF
Chief, JESCG (AFRDS), Ext. 78417

AD(S&AS) [redacted] DD (S&SS) [redacted]

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