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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

RESEARCH AND  
ENGINEERING

~~(S&TF)~~

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 16 2015

29 DEC 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

SUBJECT: Release of a Navy Transit Satellite to Support a Space Test Program (STP) Mission (U)

(U) The tri-Service STP (AF executive agent) is initiating a spaceflight mission that will fly an important complement of space experiments for the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA), the Air Force Geophysics Lab (AFGL) and the Air Force Rome Air Development Center (RADC).

~~(S/NOFORN/WHINTTEL)~~ The DNA experiments will collect propagation disturbance data that directly supports an AF/DARPA ground based laser anti-satellite test, supports a classified surveillance program and will be key to understanding and designing for nuclear effects on all future DOD space systems. The AFGL experiment will gather ultraviolet (UV) emission data from the polar aurora and other sources. This experiment supports the study of ionospheric plasma effects on radio propagation and the potential use of UV sensors for technical intelligence. The RADC experiment will demonstrate a long range, two-way, covert communication system that will lead to a world-wide capability for operations and intelligence use.

274711

(U) Studies by the STP and the involved experimenters indicate that a modified TRANSIT satellite is the ideal spacecraft bus on which to integrate these experiments. Previously, a TRANSIT was used in a similar way on two very successful STP/DNA missions P76-5 and P83-1 (HILAT). As in these previous missions, the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab will perform the satellite/experiment integration and it will be launched on a SCOUT launch vehicle from Vandenberg AFB.

~~(S)~~ This proposed mission is of significant importance to DOD space, operational and intelligence systems. I understand that based on discussions with the Navy, an inventory TRANSIT

~~Classified by: Multiple Sources~~  
~~Declassify on: 31 Dec 2003~~

~~EXEMPT PER EO 12958 as amended  
Date 30 Sep 2007 Sec 3.3 (b) (1)  
OSD E.S. 472 Other Agency Equity: TBD  
Review/Declassify On: 31 Dec 2003~~

~~SECRET~~ NOFORN

UNCLASSIFIED

13-M-4761  
2014-11-0201

(OSCAR-26) has been identified as being available and ideal for supporting this mission. Please take action to make this TRANSIT available as soon as possible for STP use in support of this mission.

*Heck*

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Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 16 2015

Department of the Navy  
DON/AA DRMD  
Date: ~~11 Aug 2014~~ Authority: EO 13526  
Declassify:  Deny in Full:   
Declassify in Part:   
Reason:  
MDR 2014-M-0201

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS  
Date: 16 JUN 2015 Authority: EO 13526+5 USC § 552  
Declassify:  Deny in Full:   
Declassify in Part:   
Reason:  
MDR: 13 -M- 4761

~~NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS  
WARNING NOTICE - INTELLIGENCE SOURCES  
AND METHODS INVOLVED~~

~~Classified by: Multiple Sources  
Review on: 31 Dec 2003~~

~~SECRET~~

Page determined to be Unclassified  
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS  
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date: JUN 16 2015

**U.S. House of Representatives**

**COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

**Washington, D.C. 20515**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

*Melvin Price*  
M.C.

The Honorable Richard D. DeLauer  
Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C. 20301

~~SECRET~~

12-14-4



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON 20330

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUN 16 2015

8 DEC 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RESEARCH & ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: Release of a Navy Transit Satellite to Support a Space Test Program (STP) Mission (U)- ACTION MEMORANDUM

(U) The tri-Service STP (AF executive agent) is initiating a spaceflight mission that will fly an important complement of space experiments for the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA), the Air Force Geophysics Lab (AFGL) and the Air Force Rome Air Development Center (RADC).

~~(S//NOFORN//NOINTEL)~~ The DNA experiments will collect propagation disturbance data that directly supports an AF/DARPA ground based laser anti-satellite test, supports a classified surveillance program and will be key to understanding and designing for nuclear effects on all future DOD space systems. The AFGL experiment will gather ultraviolet (UV) emission data from the polar aurora and other sources. This experiment supports the study of ionospheric plasma effects on radio propagation and the potential use of UV sensors for technical intelligence. The RADC experiment will demonstrate a long range, two-way, covert communication system that will lead to a world-wide capability for operations and intelligence use.

(U) Studies by the STP and the involved experimenters indicate that a modified TRANSIT satellite is the ideal spacecraft bus on which to integrate these experiments. Previously, a TRANSIT was used in a similar way on two very successful STP/DNA missions P76-5 and P83-1 (HILAT). As in these previous missions, the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab will perform the satellite/experiment integration and it will be launched on a SCOUT launch vehicle from Vandenberg AFB.

(S) This proposed mission is of significant importance to DOD space, operational and intelligence systems. Based on discussions with the Navy, it is understood that a TRANSIT (OSCAR-26) could be made available to support this mission. Request that you sign the attached memorandum to the Navy requesting the release of OSCAR-26 to the STP as soon as possible to support this mission.

WDC  
833608

*G. Martin Chen*

~~EXEMPT PER EO 12958 as amended  
Date 30 Sep 2007 Sec 3.3 (b) (1)  
ORD E.O. 212 - Other Agency Equity: TBD  
Review/Declassify On: 31 Dec 2032~~

W. H. F. Olin  
Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force  
(Research, Development & Logistics)

1 Atch  
Memo to Navy for signature (S)

~~NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS  
WARNING NOTICE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES  
AND METHODS INVOLVED~~

~~CLASSIFIED BY: Multiple Sources  
REVIEW ON: 31 DEC 2003~~

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Date:

JUN 16 2015

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OFFICE OF  
THE DIRECTOR

DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY  
1400 WILSON BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22209

DEC 19 1983

Dick DeLauer -

You should support these experiments and sign the memo to SecNav. All of the experiments are worthy. The one supporting DARPA is critical to the demo of atmospheric turbulence optical compensation related to our ground-based laser ASAT program. Funding for the experiment is included in the DARPA Directed Energy Office budget.

Thanks,

cc Marquet

~~secret~~

Bob.