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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN TALENT
KEYHOLE CHANNELS JOINTLY

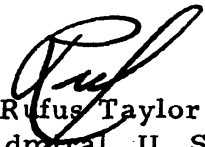
13 FEB 1967

The Honorable Alexander Flax
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
for Research and Development
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C.

Dear Al:

The recent letters from Dr. Hornig to you and to Dr. Seamans have pointed up the need for formulating procedures to assure the protection of our classified reconnaissance program during any public discussions NASA may have on the use of a GAMBIT camera in earth orbit. I believe it most important that any such discussions be guided by a full understanding of pertinent security aspects and that photography obtained by NASA's use of a GAMBIT camera will continue to be protected by the TALENT-KEYHOLE system. I would welcome, therefore, an opportunity to review the procedures which you formulate to safeguard the classified reconnaissance program in this context.

Sincerely,


Rufus Taylor
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy
Acting Director

cc: Dr. Hornig
Dr. Seamans

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