DOCID: 3978854

DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

28 MAR 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: OSD Responsibility for National Security Agency (NSA)

As you know, National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 6, dated 15 September 1958 designates the Secretary of Defense as executive agent of the Government for maintenance and operation of NSA and also authorizes him to delegate in whole or part authority over the Director of NSA within DoD as he sees fit. Since 1961, as authorized by the Secretary, NSA has reported to him through the DDR&E and the Principal Deputy has discharged the associated responsibilities. This has worked out very well since the previous Principal Deputies have had extensive electronics backgrounds.

My present plans are that the next Principal Deputy, when appointed, shall have more management responsibility for RDT&E functions in DoD and less responsibility for technical program review, and may not be electronics oriented. Therefore, with your approval, I shall delegate the responsibility for NSA to Dr. Gardiner L. Tucker as my Deputy Director for Electronics and Information Systems. Since he is responsible for the other intelligence and security functions of DDR&E including the Consolidated Intelligence Program review, the USCSB Chairmanship and the special activities of the Air Force and Navy, this action appears most appropriate.

John S. Foster, Jr.

Approve Neil McElroy MAR 31 1959

Disapprove _____

See me _____