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NIO-2275-75

21 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director, Office of Research & Development

SUBJECT : Bird Capability for Photography

1. Following the recent demonstration at [redacted] NIO/SA, at SE Division's request, attended a meeting with representatives from SE/COPS, SE R&R, SE/IO and OTS/SDP to discuss the actual operational value of the bird photographic system. At this meeting it was agreed that NIO/SA and SE/R&R would solicit and validate photographic requirements in the USSR for collection via your bird-borne camera; OTS/SPD [redacted] and SE/COPS [redacted] would discuss with ORD plans to improve the present camera system (which is not now reliable enough for an actual operation); and the office of SE/IO would draft a detailed scenario to be used as a basis for a realistic demonstration in the Washington area.

2. It was understood that ORD could run one more demonstration utilizing existing funds prior to 31 December 1975. You will receive a more detailed memo within the next ten days which will include a detailed demonstration scenario from SE Division. In the meantime, you may drop your ongoing program of training birds for long (25 miles) overwater flights. The central point of our interest revolves around your ability to train birds from photographs.

[redacted]

Barry Kelly
NIO for Special Activities

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