

FOIA MARKER

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Intelligence

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_____ 6 Nov 92
Katie -

To keep you
up-to-date on
Tom's activities
_____ Martha

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

To: Robert McC. Adams

Through: Constance Berry Newman

From: Thomas E. Lovejoy TEL_{mac}

Date: November 5, 1992

Re: Senator Gore's initiative to declassify data for environmental purposes.

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: MAY DATE: 3/2/2017

Many months ago, Senator Gore initiated an effort to examine whether the intelligence agencies have data which it would be useful to declassify because of their value to environmental management. An example would be information on the thickness of the Arctic ice sheet taken by U.S. submarines. I attach a letter requesting my participation in this effort.

This is a potentially sensitive matter for the Institution and a decision is needed on what basis, if any, I should participate. This is not an effort to conduct classified research. It has not involved any classified information, but at some point it could involve discussions as to whether to declassify data which would bear on the environment.

This might involve a written understanding about the basis on which I would participate. Or it could involve a decision that I should not participate in such discussions because of possible misperceptions. It simply may be unwise from the Institutional point of view? At the same time it is important to recognize this also could have really important results for the environment. It may also make sense for Jim Woolsey to be part of the decision?

NOV 02 1992

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 28, 1992

Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy
Assistant Secretary
Office of External Affairs
Smithsonian Institution
Castle Building, Room 317
Washington, DC 20560

Dear Tom:

I want to thank you again for offering to serve on the task force to explore the potential for information-sharing between the intelligence and environmental science communities. Your clearance paperwork has been received and is currently being processed by the government.

I would now like to tell you about plans worked out in conjunction with the task force established by Mr. Gates for the first two meetings. The October meeting will focus on providing an understanding of the needs of the environmental science community to the intelligence community. This will be done at the unclassified level and will take two days to complete. At the November meeting, representatives of the intelligence community will brief the task force on the current and near-term future capabilities of our classified intelligence systems, as well as on the historical data holdings of the members of the intelligence community. This meeting will be conducted at the appropriate security level. The November meeting will also be the time to lay out the strategy for the remainder of the work.

The task force will be organized into ten panels. The first eight will focus on the following environmental science disciplines:

- Clouds, Radiation, Water Vapor, and Precipitation
- Land Use/Population Dynamics and Economics and Urban Development
- Solid Earth, Including Volcanoes and Their Role in Climate Change
- Polar Ice Sheets and Sea Level
- Land Use, Land Cover, and Primary Productivity
- Greenhouse Gases and Their Atmospheric Transformations
- Ocean Productivity, Circulation, and Air-Sea Exchange
- Ozone Chemistry and Coupling with Climate and the Biosphere

The other two panels will focus on the following sensor and information processing issues:

- Sensor Characteristics – Links Between Sensors and Science
- Data Systems – What Scientists Do With Data

There will also be several members of the task force who will work with all of the panels on an at-large basis.

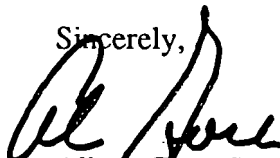
The purpose of the October meeting is to identify data gaps in the environmental science disciplines listed above. We are asking you to serve on the Land Use, Land Cover, and Primary Productivity Panel during the October meeting. The scientists identified in the enclosure have been invited to serve on the panel with you during this meeting. The meeting will be organized as a series of mini-roundtables, with each roundtable focusing on one of the disciplines. As a member of the Land Use, Land Cover, and Primary Productivity roundtable, your task would be to help summarize the present capabilities for data acquisition in this discipline, identify where there are gaps, and suggest technical capabilities (satellite, airborne, or in situ) that could fill these gaps. During the second day of the meeting, the roundtable chairs will present the results of their roundtable discussions to a group of government intelligence community representatives. These presentations will sharpen the government's understanding of your specific data needs so they can be addressed as directly and accurately as possible at the November meeting. The chair of your panel may nominate additional panel members to help prepare the presentation to the intelligence community representatives. It will not be possible, however, for these additional panel members to participate in the subsequent, classified meetings of the task force.

During the November meeting, members of the government intelligence community will make classified presentations focusing on the information needs you identified during the October meeting. This will include information on their current and near-term capabilities, as well a review of their historical holdings that potentially satisfy the needs you have identified.

Both the October and November meetings will be held at The MITRE Corporation in McLean, Virginia. You will be receiving information from them soon on travel and accommodations for the meetings. If you need any additional information, please contact Mr. Brad Wiss of my staff at (202) 224-4944.

Once again, thank you for your willingness to participate in this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Al Gore', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Albert Gore, Jr.
United States Senator

AG/

Enclosure

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

Land Use, Land Cover, and Primary Productivity Panel

Dr. William Schlesinger, Panel Chair
Duke University
919-684-2453

Dr. Anthony Janetos
NASA HQs
Office of Space Science and Applications
202-358-0272

Dr. Thomas Lovejoy
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