The Defense Special
Missile and Astronautics Center (U)

[REDACTED] Defense Department executives often received more reports than there were collectors, each presenting only a fragmentary, and sometimes contradictory, view of the event. [REDACTED]

Even though access to the DEFSMAC work spaces is restricted, this article attempts to share with *Spectrum* readers a reasonably comprehensive insight into the mission, organization, and work processes of the Center.

(S)   *Origins.* DEFSMAC was established in April 1964 by a Department of Defense directive, signed by then Secretary of Defense, Robert Mc-Namara. [REDACTED]

(U)   The Data Systems Directorate provides software support to the computer operations which underlie most DEFSMAC activities, including systems interfaces with several NSA computer systems, especially those dedicated to time-sensitive processing. It coordinates hardware acquisition, installation, and maintenance; provides user training; and maintains management liaison between DEFSMAC and NSA for coordination of future hardware and systems requirements. The Data Systems people develop and maintain the Center's functional data bases and software, supporting information storage and retrieval, data communications, astrodynamic, and computer graphics applications. At this writing, Data Systems is busily involved with a major rewrite of software as DEFSMAC converts its data processing from older systems ████████████ to the newer ████████████ systems.