



DNI Recommends Higher Resolution Imagery To White House

April 15, 2014

By [Colin Clark](#)

Breaking Defense

TAMPA: The head of the Intelligence Community, [Director of National Intelligence James Clapper](#), told [the world's biggest intelligence conference](#) that he has recommended to the White House that it approve significantly higher resolutions for the nation's [one remaining commercial spy satellite company](#).

Currently, the United States limits the sale of commercial imagery to half a meter. The lowest current official resolution is 41 centimeters, although I understand the next DigitalGlobe bird, [WorldView 3](#), will be able to supply photos with significantly lower resolutions to government clients such as the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. So if DigitalGlobe has an image at a higher resolution, it actually has to make it blurrier before it can sell the image on the commercial market. A recent example of this is the satellite photos that DigitalGlobe supplied to Australia [in the search for Malaysian Airlines flight 370](#).

...

Continue reading at [breakingdefense.com](#)