

NEW INPUT TO SYSTEM

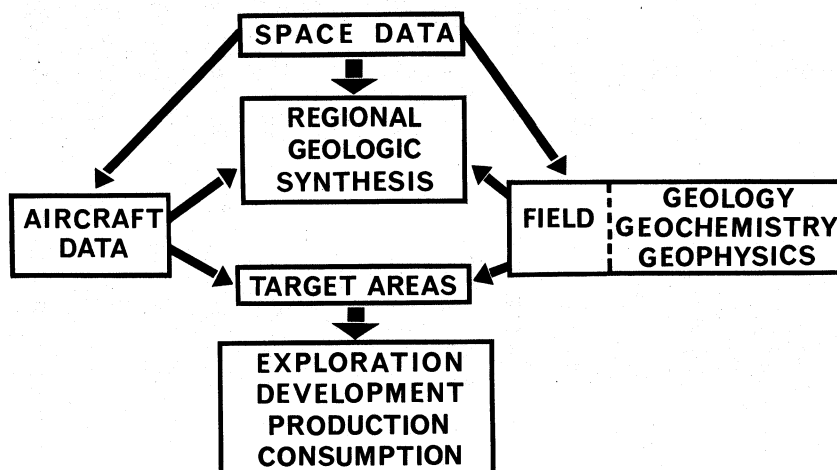


FIGURE 24

Our experience has enabled us to develop a simple set of performance specifications for a general purpose, resources satellite. We believe that these specifications can be met with equipment already in existence or with equipment that could easily be built. We also believe that there will be a continuing need for a satellite of the type we envision and that the results of a survey of the earth with this satellite will amply justify a continuing, cooperative program of research utilizing increasingly sophisticated sensor systems.

Our performance specifications have been transmitted to NASA; they are currently being equated against available satellite and sensor systems by the Goddard Space Flight Center, and we have offered to help fund an experiment, provided the recommended system fulfills our requirements and can be expected to lead toward an operational system.

Where do we stand administratively?

Secretary Udall has asked the Geological Survey to act as the lead agency in developing a unified EROS Program that will meet the data needs of the largest possible number of Bureaus and Agencies. We have organized this effort on a Departmental basis (Fig. 25). Dr. William T. Pecora, Director of the Geological Survey, is serving as the Director of the EROS Program.