On 21 September 1966, the United States Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall announced Project EROS -- “a program aimed at gathering facts about the natural resources of the earth from earth-orbiting satellites.” While this sounded relatively benign on the surface--what could be cooler than gathering data with satellites?--it created a hornet’s nest of concern in the National Security Office of Lyndon B. Johnson’s administration. What was the problem with EROS? The United States had been collecting weather information since 1960 with the launching of the first TIROS satellite; collecting data on natural resources would just be the next step. Or would it? Weather was global in a way that natural resources were not. And the United States was consuming natural resources at an increasingly greater pace with each decade. Therefore, it was important to determine sources for needed minerals and EROS appeared to Interior, at least, to be the key. However, when the target was Latin and South America during the Cold War, other considerations immediately came into play. Using documents from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library, this paper will discuss how the announcement of Project EROS triggered reactions from US government agencies from State to NASA as they sought to keep potential political damage under control.