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RUS-10623-61-22

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22 December 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence,
Department of the Air Force

SUBJECT: USAF Requirements for Preliminary Photo Interpretation
Support (U)

1. Reference is made to your letter, subject as above, dated 1 September 1961, (SECRET-NOFORN). Subject letter contains three separate problem areas:

a. An implied question as to the format and procedures which NPIC plans to utilize in exploiting GANOS photography.

b. A request for NPIC to transmit Joint Mission Coverage Index (JMCI) reports on a daily basis.

c. A request for NPIC to prepare a UPIR on "each object, installation, area, and activity examined or analyzed by NPIC."

2. The National Photographic Interpretation Center plans to continue the preliminary exploitation of current TALENT-KEYHOLE photography by producing OAK reports on a daily basis as well as a single volume JMCI. At the present time, NPIC is producing and disseminating numerous copies of the OAK and JMCI reports in hard copy form; the Center also provides USAF with a 5 channel punched teletype tape of the OAK reports on a daily basis. NPIC produces OAK supplements and disseminates them on an immediate basis to all members of the Intelligence Community; they contain data the significance of which is comparable to the COMOR highest priority targets. The Center will continue to provide you with copies of the IBM cards on each JMCI.

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3. With respect to 1.a., EPIC plans to exploit the SANDS photography in basically the same manner as KEYHOLE photography, utilizing the OAK and the JNCI as the basic formats for initial rendition.

4. With respect to 1.b., resources available to the EPIC are not adequate to permit daily reports on the JNCI. The OAK is a daily report which covers all highest priority targets. To convert the JNCI to a daily basis would require considerably more effort and more delays in other projects than are justified for the lower priority targets.

5. With respect to 1.c., you are aware that the terms of ESICID No. 8 charge EPIC with producing preliminary photographic interpretation reports. To accomplish this, EPIC has established a fairly sophisticated RPP system to aid in the exploitation process and to expedite the dissemination of such reports. At a recent meeting of representatives of AFIC and EPIC the format of data in the UPIR was discussed in detail. The JNCI published by EPIC in its present form has been developed over a period of years for the purpose of satisfying as many of the major needs of the Intelligence Community as possible consistent with timeliness. To comply with your request for recording the information derived from the preliminary interpretation of reconnaissance photography on the UPIR format would require a complete revision of Center operating procedures and concurrence by service/agency participants in this involves the following:

a. EPIC personnel would be required to perform an abnormal amount of additional departmental clerical and classification (indexing) work which would materially lengthen the time needed to complete a JNCI.

b. Since at this time each recipient of the OAK and JNCI produced at EPIC has his own information storage and retrieval system and EPIC cannot provide separate formats for the special inputs into these systems, the solution appears to be for each recipient to provide means for coping with his own input problem in a manner compatible with his own system.

c. Departmental requirements can be satisfied more expeditiously and more accurately as departmental follow-on operations after the JNCI is completed. To publish one type of report for the USAF and one for the balance of the Intelligence Community would place a severe burden upon the Center at a time when our available manpower and production facilities are taxed to the fullest.

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4. For the entire Community to accept the UDAP UPIN format obviously requires consideration which is not within the purview of the HPIC.

6. With regard to 5.b., it is my understanding that you are experiencing difficulty in adapting our IBM cards to the Air Force data system due to non-uniform fielding of certain data on HPIC cards. We will welcome further discussions on this matter with your technical representatives.

7. In conclusion, I regret to advise you that I cannot accept your proposal to conform to the UDAP's UPIN format. Should you desire further information please do not hesitate to call on me at any time.

ARTHUR C. LUNDHAL
Director

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