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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

COMIREX-M-43  
11 July 1968

*Approved per M-43  
see change page 19*

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1047 - Launched 20 June, 2145Z

First bucket recovered - 29 June 1968, 0034Z

Second bucket recovered - 5 July 1968, 2322Z

Film processing/distribution:

Arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak - 6 July 1968,  
1545Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D. C. area -  
11 July 1968, 0100Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D. C. area -  
12 July 1968, 0100Z

1104 - Scheduled 7 August 1968

Estimated recovery 1st bucket (8 days) - 16 August, 0030Z

Estimated recovery 2nd bucket (7 days) - 23 August, 0030Z

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Film processing/distribution:

- Estimated arrival 1st bucket at Eastman Kodak -  
16 August, 1800Z
- Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D. C.  
area - 19 August, 1600Z
- Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D. C.  
area - 20 August, 1600Z
- Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak -  
23 August, 1800Z
- Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D. C.  
area - 26 August, 1600Z
- Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D. C.  
area - 27 August, 1600Z

Projected stereo coverage:

- 1st bucket - Land area - 2.95 million sq. n. m.  
Targets - Approximately 2,400
- 2nd bucket - Land area - 2.95 million sq. n. m.  
Targets - Approximately 2,400

1048 - Scheduled 18 September 1968

- Estimated recovery 1st bucket (8 days) - 27 September, 0030Z
- Estimated recovery 2nd bucket (8 days) - 5 October, 0030Z

Film processing/distribution:

- Estimated arrival 1st bucket at Eastman Kodak -  
27 September, 1800Z
- Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D. C.  
area - 30 September, 1600Z
- Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D. C. area -  
1 October, 1600Z
- Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak -  
5 October, 1800Z

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Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D. C.  
area - 8 October, 1600Z  
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D. C.  
area - 9 October, 1600Z

Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 4.15 million sq. n. m.  
Targets - Approximately 3,000

2nd bucket - Land area - 4.15 million sq. n. m.  
Targets - Approximately 3,000

3. In reply to a question from the Chairman as to why  
[redacted] has slipped, [redacted] advised that payload checkout  
problems have been encountered.

Report on Aircraft Activities--Far East

[redacted] I/T)

4. [redacted] confirmed continued  
standdown of IDEALIST/TACKLE and [redacted] flights over  
China. [redacted] advised one GIANT SCALE mission flown  
between 4 and 11 July to be as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>Area/Targets</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
4 July	GS035	Hon Gay Port Fac/Cat Bi Afld/ Gia Lam Afld/Phuc Yen Afld/ Yen Bai Afld/Dien Bien Phu Afld/ Lau Chau Complex/Kep Afld	Fair

5. [redacted] reported the following [redacted]  
activities in the 4-11 July reporting period:

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
4 July	Q225	Rte 15 from 2046N10505E to 1918N10534E/Coastal Hwy Rte 1A, DMZ	Did not return
	Q712	Nam Dinh - Thanh Hoa RR, Nam Dinh TPP, Ninh Binh RR Bridge, Thanh Hoa Trans-shipment Point	Successful, MARS
5 July	Q812	Rte 1A Ninh Binh - Hanoi, Bac Giang Complex Kep Afld and RR Yd	Did not return
	Q716	DMZ; Hwy 101 from 17N10656E to 1719N10638E, Hwy 101 from 1719N10638E to 1738N10622E	In water, recovered
7 July	Q809	Bac Mai Afld/Gia Lam Afld/ RR Seg 3A/Co Trai RR Bridge, Nam Dinh Transshipment Pt, TPP and RR Yd	In water; film status unknown
	Q702	Vinh to Thanh Hoa RR	Successful, MARS
8 July	Q226	Hon NE Isle/Beach Ship 1920N10548E to 1934N10549E/ Seg Hwy 1A/Vinh Afld/Seg Hwy 101	Successful, MARS
11 July	Q226	Same as above	Successful, MARS

Recovered - 5  
Lost - 2  
Undetermined - 1

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6. [ ] reported action against two priority South China/North Vietnam targets as follows:

a. Coverage of Lines of Communications (LOC) pertinent to the introduction of Chinese forces into North Vietnam (see COMOR-D-25/207, 4 March 1966). The number of LOC priority targets in South China and North Vietnam remains at 142. For the period 4 July-10 July 1968, surveillance coverage was reported on 10 priority targets in North Vietnam. The specific targets are underlined in Tab A.

b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of new weapons systems (see COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967). The area coverage reported obtained between 4 July-10 July 1968 consisted of four GIANT SCALE and five [ ] missions. The coverage is shown on the grid map at Tab B. No SSM activity was observed.

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Report on Aircraft Activities--Cuba

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7. [ ] reported one [ ] flight in the 4-11 July period and supplied the following recapitulation:

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Results</u>
5 July	G031	Net coverage 32% Cumulative coverage 80.6%

RECAP

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
12 June	G027	41.0%	41.0%
21 June	G028	38.3%	65.0%
26 June	G029	"H" Camera Mission	
2 July	G030	10.2%	68.3%
5 July	G031	32.0%	80.6%

The current reporting period extends from 10 June 1968 through 4 August 1968.

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8. [redacted] reported that for the 56-day period beginning 16 May 1968, six [redacted] missions were flown over Cuba and provided 90% coverage of the area. During this period 139 of the 149 targets in Cuba were covered completely on cloud-free photography, not including the most recent mission.

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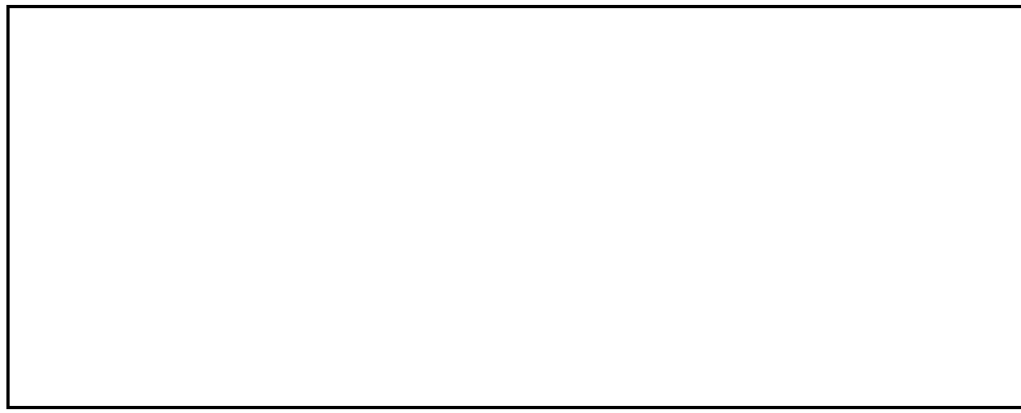
Section II (NPIC Report)

Mission Highlights

(T-KH)

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1. [redacted] provided COMIREX with some highlights in recent missions as follows:



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b. Mission 1047 showed two new airfields, constructed since June 1967, close to the Sino-Soviet border. Kardsuat has a runway 10,400 feet in length, the Omirlik runway is 8,685 feet. No aircraft were observed at either airfield.

c. Semipalatinsk. FIDDLER aircraft were identified by Mission 1047 at Semipalatinsk. This is the first identification of FIDDLERS at this airfield and seven were seen.

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Section III (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

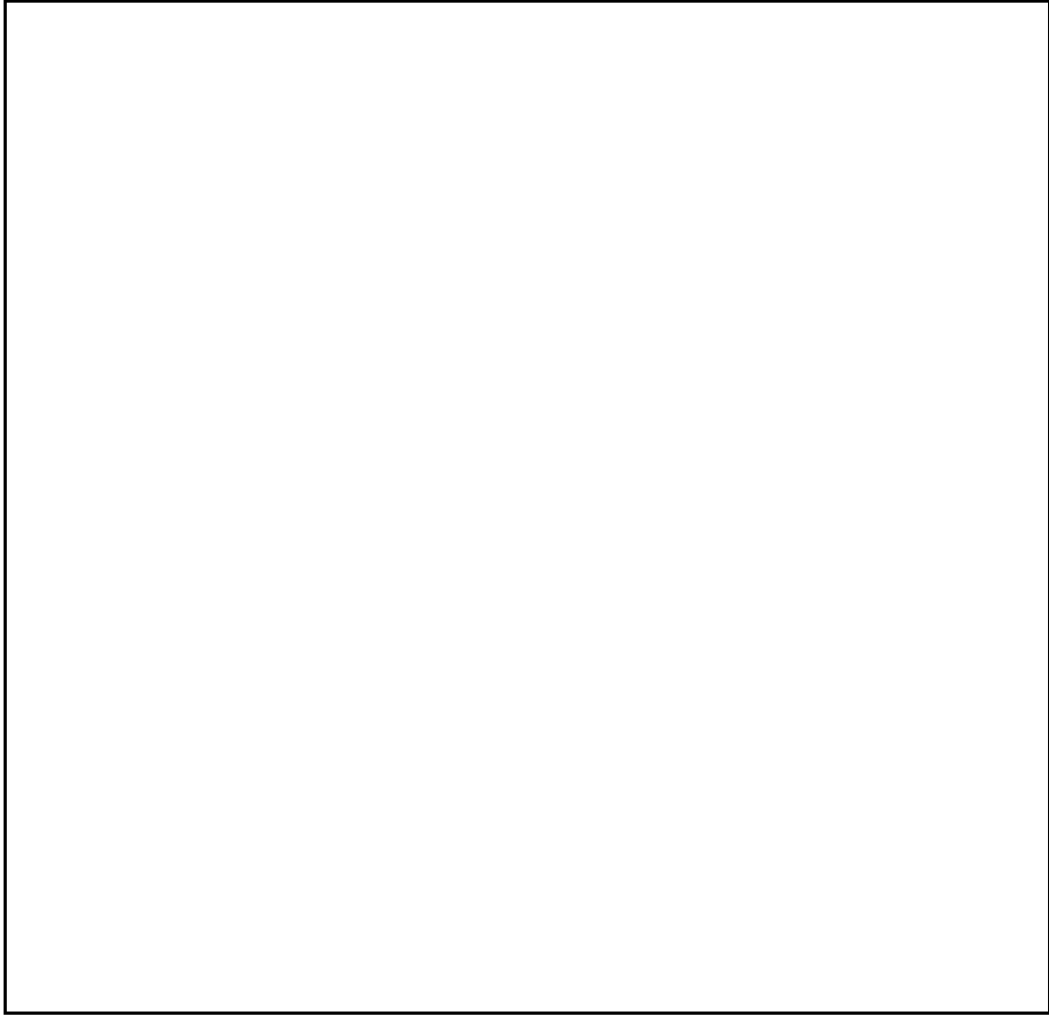
Report from Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee

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1. [redacted] reported as follows:

[redacted]

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b. In commenting on the status of collection against the Far East requirement, see Tab C, [redacted] noted that there has been an overall improvement in coverage

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CORONA / [redacted]  
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with the exception of North Korea. Since the [redacted] missions have been discontinued coverage has fallen off.

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c. A revised version of the Target Nomination Form is being distributed to ICRS for comment.

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Section IV (Action Items)

Discussion of Revised Requirements for Satellite Photography for Mapping and Charting [redacted]

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1. The Chairman distributed a revision of COMIREX-D-15.2/8 and provided members with background as to what had gone into the revision. [redacted] explained that one problem that had been surfaced was a misunderstanding of the M&C requirement [redacted]. This had prompted the Chairman to request the MCGWG to make a new study of its requirement, with particular emphasis on what might be needed when the full [redacted] systems became available. [redacted] commended MCGWG on an extremely thorough job, which had resulted in publication of COMIREX-D-15.2/8. This paper had been concurred in by all members with the exception of CIA. The Chairman now hoped that the new and abbreviated approach would be accepted as more to the point and less susceptible to differences in interpretation. Following some discussions of editorial changes, [redacted] agreed to publish a new draft to be discussed at COMIREX on 18 July. /See COMIREX-D-15.2/10./

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Adaptation of 1104 to Short-Arc Technique for Positioning Accuracy [redacted]

2. A thorough discussion of various ways and means of launching and operating 1104 to assist in the improvement of positioning accuracy through application of the short-arc techniques were concluded with a request from the Chairman that NRO supply NPIC with specific information on the slit widths which would be needed. [redacted] requested that NRO do this within a time frame which would then permit NPIC to advise what degradation to interpretability and loss of resolution would result from the recommended slit widths. Based on this information the Chairman would consult other members as necessary and would provide NRO with a decision, by noon on 12 July, as to whether to fly the short-arc mission.

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3. The discussion did show that in the present time frame favorable consideration of launching and operating 1104 for the short-arc experiment was militated against by a priority requirement for KH-4B quality photography of North Korea and the need to obtain as much coverage as possible of Soviet strategic weapons systems, both offensive and defensive. Despite the realization that 400 SIOP targets are estimated to be more than 750 feet away from the locations presently plotted, and the SAR could improve this accuracy to better than 500 feet, the improvement of these targeting accuracies appeared to be of a lesser priority than the development of hard intelligence in the current situation. The Chairman noted also [redacted] observation that SAC really wants 450-foot accuracy and needs this by mid-1969. [redacted] speculated that while 1104 would be the last chance this year, it would appear that the mapping and charting community might be able to plan a better mission next year. Various new aids to positioning accuracy have been discussed and might be of real benefit in approaching the SAC requirement.

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Requirement for Coverage of Santiago, Cuba, with the "H" Camera [redacted]

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4. [redacted] advised that the ICRS has reaffirmed the requirement of coverage of the Santiago Camp Bunker [redacted] in Cuba with one foot or better resolution. A specific camera system is not specified such as the "H" Camera System. A cut-off date after which required solar conditions will no longer exist for 1968, is being determined by the requesting agency and will be provided the operator for mission planning purposes.

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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

FY 1969 Requirements for Third-Phase Basic Reporting (COMIREX-D-31.4/18, 19, and 20) (S)

1. The Chairman, EXSUBCOM, noting that the majority of the basic reporting requirements have now been assigned, requested the support of COMIREX principals in having their organizations develop estimated reporting schedules in response to the requirements. COMIREX agreed readily to [ ] further suggestion that the organizations develop their estimated reporting schedules in quarterly increments rather than for the entire year. COMIREX approved the assignment of the requirements tabled for consideration.

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Overhead Imagery Reconnaissance of North Vietnam During a Truce (COMIREX-D-25.3/4) [ ]

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2. The Chairman commented briefly on the revisions made to the previous report and requested COMIREX comments on the new version. The Department of State member <sup>expressed the opinion</sup> ~~feared~~ that the seventh paragraph might <sup>detract from</sup> be a detriment to the objective analysis of the problem as presented in the first six paragraphs. [ ] felt that the first six paragraphs were responsive to Admiral Taylor's request <sup>and that</sup> while the seventh <sup>went beyond the USIB charge</sup> became enmeshed with an evaluation of reconnaissance in a truce period and made recommendations, which <sup>had</sup> not been requested. The CIA member agreed that the tone of paragraph seven could be changed and revised into an objective summary of the preceding comments. [ ] invited both the Department of State and CIA members to submit proposed changes to him.

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3. The Chairman was disinclined to disregard pertinent aspects of future operations, such as the pressing need for reconnaissance below the cloud cover. Evasion of this issue could result in a deceptive report. In response to a specific request from the DIA member, [ ] postponed further discussion of this paper until 18 July.

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Planning Use of USA Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) (COMIREX-D-32.2/3) [redacted]

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4. In reply to the doubts of [redacted] on security problems which might be associated with standardization of the ASCII for communications, [redacted] pointed out that he did not see the connection between the coding of computer language and security. However, the data base security advisor was looking into the problem of security and administration as it relates to interagency exchange of magnetic tapes containing imagery information.

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5. [redacted] observed that actions precipitated by the approval of ASCII had resulted in a need for a thorough community exploration of the present use of computer code language in the imagery information environment for a policy statement as to how to conform to the new ASCII standard. COMIREX agreed that the community must prepare eventually to bring data handling and exchange in line with ASCII. In the meantime, however, members regarded the approach outlined in the memorandum under consideration as being logical in terms of avoiding disruption of present systems and from an economic standpoint. The Chairman, DBWG was authorized to continue in accordance with his proposal, including maintaining an exchange of information and ideas on the subject with the Chairman, IHC.

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- Copies 1,2 DCI TCO for USIB/S
- 3 TCO DCI Liaison Officer, SecDef
- 4 [redacted] Executive Office Building
- 23 [redacted]
- 24 DDP TCO
- 25-27 CIA COMIREX Member
- 28,29 Ch/ICRS
- 30 Special Center TCO
- 31 ONE TCO
- 32 IRS ReqBr/RecceGrp
- 33 OBI TCO
- 34-36 D/OSR
- 37-46 NPIC TCO
- 47 COMIREX Staff [redacted]
- 48 Ch/EXRAND
- 49 D/IAS
- 50 TSO CIA
- 51 DDS&T [redacted]
- 52 ASA/DCI/NIPE
- 53 D/OSI
- 54 ExSec/SORS/OSI
- 55 D/ILSS/DDS&T
- 56 D/OSP
- 57 D/OEL
- 58 D/SA
- 59 D/O/OSA
- 60 Intel/O/OSA
- 61 D/FMSAC
- 62-66 Ch/COMIREX

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