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COMIREX-M-57
12 December 1968

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

COMIREX-M-57
12 December 1968

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

Minutes of Meeting Held in Auditorium

[Redacted]

1000-1300, Thursday, 12 December 68

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PRESIDING

[Redacted]

Chairman

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MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. L. A. Moyer, Jr., State

Col. C. E. Phipps, AFNIN

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Lt. Col. R. N. Barry, OACSI

Cdr. J. A. Richardson, ONI

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CONSULTANT PRESENT

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

Executive Secretary
O/Ch/Committee on Imagery Requirements
and Exploitation
, Acting Ch/Imagery Collection Requirements
Subcommittee
[Redacted] Ch/Imagery Exploitation Subcommittee
Ch/Exploitation Research and Development
Subcommittee
h/National Imagery Data Base Working Group

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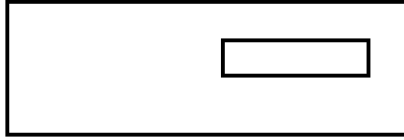
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Section I (Briefings and Reports on Operations)

Operational Briefing -- Satellite



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1. [Redacted] provided the following information on satellite operations and scheduling:

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Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival at [Redacted] 12 December, 1100L

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Estimated arrival Priority 1 in D.C. area - 15 December, 1100L

Estimated arrival Priority 2 in D.C. area - 16 December, 1100L

Projected target coverage - 1, 930

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Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival at [Redacted] 1 February, 1100L

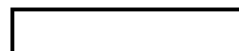
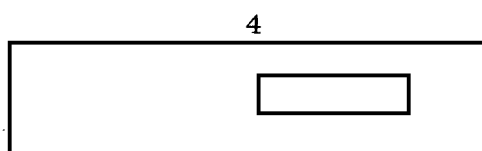
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Estimated arrival Priority 1 in D.C. area - 4 February, 1100L

Estimated arrival Priority 2 in D.C. area - 5 February, 1100L

Projected target coverage - 2, 700

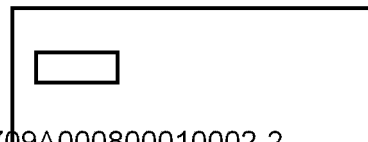
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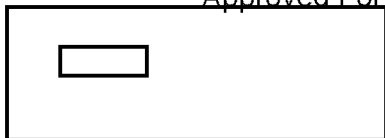
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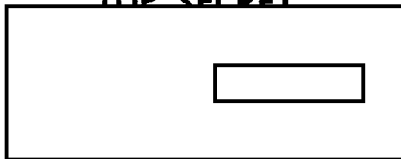
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CORONA

1049 - Scheduled 12 December 1968, 1530L

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 20 December 1968, 1730L

Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 27 December 1968, 1730L

Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival 1st bucket at [redacted] - 21 Dec, 1300L

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Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D. C. - 24 Dec, 1100L

Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D. C. - 25 Dec, 1100L

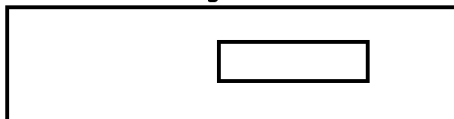
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at [redacted] 28 Dec, 1300L

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Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D. C. - 31 Dec, 1100L

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D. C. - 1 Jan, 1100L

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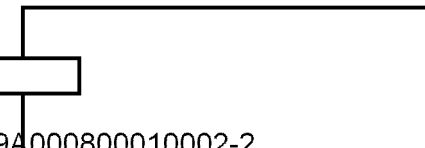
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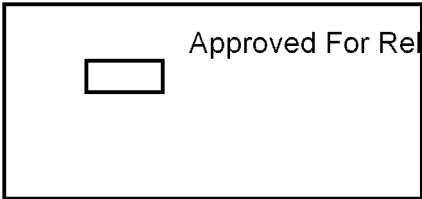
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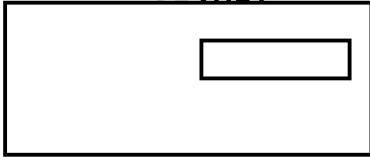
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Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 2.80 million sq. n.m.
Targets - Approximately 2,400

2nd bucket - Land area - 2.80 million sq. n.m.
Targets - Approximately 2,400

1106 - Scheduled 5 February 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 14 February 1969, 1730L
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 23 February 1969, 1730L

Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival 1st bucket at [redacted] - 15 Feb, 1300L

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Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D.C. - 18 Feb, 1100L

Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D.C. - 19 Feb, 1100L

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at [redacted] 24 Feb, 1300L

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Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D.C. - 27 Feb, 1100L

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D.C. - 28 Feb, 1100L

Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 1.68 million sq. n.m.
Targets - 2,400

2nd bucket - Land area - 1.68 million sq. n.m.
Targets - 2,400

1050 - Scheduled 19 March 1969

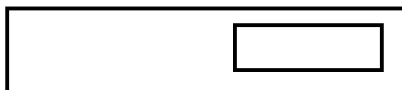
Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 27 March 1969
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 4 April 1969

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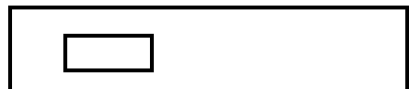


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1051 - Scheduled 7 May 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 15 May 1969

Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 23 May 1969

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2. The Chairman asked [Redacted] whether he had any particular comments on [Redacted] which was on orbit for only seven instead of the planned ten days. [Redacted] advised that the stability problems encountered on [Redacted] were different from [Redacted] a horizon sensor failed [Redacted] Implementing the redundant attitude control system--aboard for testing and flight qualification for [Redacted]-permitted normal on orbit operations. On [Redacted] only one of two secondary propulsion systems functioned during an attempt to adjust the orbit for optimum collection operations. [Redacted]

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3. In reply to a question from the CIA member, [Redacted] [Redacted] did not feel that the problems encountered on [Redacted] [Redacted] would result in a schedule change for [Redacted]

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Report on Aircraft Activities--Far East [Redacted]

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4. [Redacted] confirmed the continuing standdown on FOOD FAIR and reported GIANT SCALE activities for the period 6-12 December as follows:

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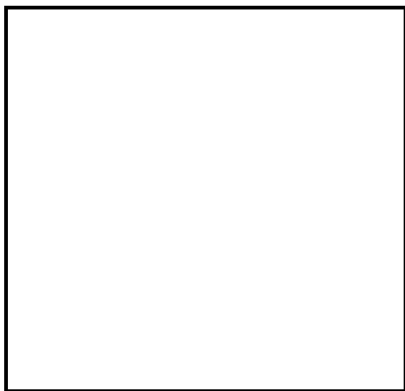
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DATE

MISSION NO.

AREAS/TARGETS

REMARKS



Dien Bien Phu, Phuc Yen, Hoa
Lac, Nam Dinh, Phu Ly, Cat Bi

Results fair

Vinh, Ben Thuy, Rtes 1A, 101
Wtr Rtes 3, 5, 105, RR Rte 6
Sihanoukville, Ream,
Hampot

Results fair

Dien Bien Phu, Viet Tri,
Xom AP Lo, Kep, Ben Thuy,
Hoa Lac, Phuc Yen

Results unknown

5. In the period 6-12 December there were five
successful BUMPY ACTION missions and three were lost.

DATE

MISSION NO.

AREAS/TARGETS

REMARKS



DMZ, Rte 1A

Successful, MARS

Rte 1A

Successful, MARS

SAM Sites 311, 66

Lost

DMZ, Rtes 1A, 101,
Thanh Hoa, Bai Thuong,
Vinh

Successful, MARS

Hanoi Port, Haiphong
Port

Successful, MARS

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
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Haiphong, Rtes 10, 4
1A, Nam Dinh

Lost

Ben Thuy, Rtes 15, 1,
Vinh, Dong Hoi,
Wtr Rte 5

Successful, MARS

Gia Lam, Bac Mai, Nam
Dinh TPP, Nam Dinh
Transp Pt

Lost

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6. [redacted] reported on efforts to meet two priority South China/North Vietnam requirements, see a. and b. below, and in showing the map pertinent to b. noted that coverage did not look too good and generally bad weather had prevailed in the area:

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 5-11 December, no surveillance coverage was reported.

b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of offensive missile systems (see COMOR-D-25/200, 23 May 1967 and COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967) is shown on the grid map at Tab B for the period 28 November - 4 December. One BUMPY ACTION mission flown during this time period and considered successful has not been reported. No SSM activity was observed.

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Report on Aircraft Activities -- Cuba

[Redacted]

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7. [Redacted] reported GLASS LAMP activity for the 6-12 December period as follows:

DATE MISSION NO. RESULTS

[Redacted]

Successful, 38.0% coverage

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DATE MISSION NO. NET CUMULATIVE

[Redacted]

15.3% 42.6%
21.5% 53.0%
38.0% 63.5%

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8. [Redacted] reported that for the 56-day period beginning 17 October 1968, nine GLASS LAMP missions were flown over Cuba and provided 94 percent coverage of the area. During this period 163 of the 175 targets in Cuba were covered completely on cloud-free photography not including the most recent mission flown 6 December 1968.

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[Redacted]

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Section II (NPIC Report)

Mission Highlights

[Redacted]

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1. [Redacted] had nine boards from [Redacted] and one from the second bucket of [Redacted] a. through i. cover [Redacted], the KH-4 photography.

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a. USSR. Best photography to date of the SA-2 1/2 missile was obtained in coverage of launch complex B at Sary Shagan. The high quality of the coverage permitted more reliable mensuration and details of the missile.

b. USSR. First photographic evidence of decontamination vehicles at Barano-Orenburgskoye. This is the second large, 104 decontamination trucks and six decontamination trailers, concentration of decontamination equipment observed in the Sino Soviet border area in 1968.

c. Mongolia. Although in collateral a possible FROG battalion had previously been reported at Ulaan Baatar, this is the first photographic identification of such equipment, despite previous coverage by five KH-4

[Redacted]

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d. China. Although China has reportedly produced 25 PT-76 tanks in the last three years, photography of Tang Shui provides the first positive pictorial identification of these tanks in China.

e. China. Substructure of the pad at launch complex B, Shuang Cheng Tzu, has now reached ground level.

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f. China. SAWRF facilities 1 and 5 at Shuang Cheng Tzu show that in the case of the former the entrances on the southern side are being mounded, while at facility 5 half the corridor area has been mounded.

g. China. Construction continues at the SAWRF at Cheng Chou East. Photography permits observation of the corridor construction. The corridors are within an area measuring 490 x 550 feet. Structural members used in the construction of the [redacted] corridor and projections are observed around the facility. Road improvement is in progress between the facility and an excellent all-weather road between Cheng Chou and Kai Feng.

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h. North Korea. For the first time, OSA guidance missile patrol boats and an SS-N-2 styx missile are observed at Munchon. Four OSA PTFG are at the mole. In addition to one exposed SS-N-2 missile, six crates are nearby.

i. North Korea. Latest photography makes it appear that the environmental domes from the main mast antennas have been removed from the PUEBLO, still tied up at Najin.

j. China. Photography from the second bucket [redacted] shows what appears to be early preparations for an airdrop test at GZ-2. The present 11-month period of inactivity is much longer than any previous inactive period at GZ-2.

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Section III (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

Report from Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee

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1. [redacted] indicated that there was an omission on the draft of the mission priorities [redacted] that was distributed. The following general statement concerning South China should be added in Priority 1 under China:

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"China - area south of 30° North and east of 97° East."

Report from Imagery Exploitation Subcommittee

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2. [redacted] reported that EXSUBCOM has developed requirements for [redacted] and provided them to NPIC for guidance in its first-phase exploitation of that mission. He pointed out that a sizable number of targets have been listed without regard for whether or not they were actually covered by the mission. The EXSUBCOM goal is to list all current intelligence requirements of the community with the understanding that, if they were covered, readout is desired within a particular time frame relative to receipt of the film. The readout requirement lists a [redacted] from CIA and DIA for special handling. For future missions, then, it would only be necessary to make additions to or deletions from this list rather than drawing up a completely new list each time.

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3. The Chairman was assured by [redacted] [redacted] that this would not make additional readout work for NPIC since NPIC will attempt to read out only those targets which they know were to be covered by that particular mission.

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4. [redacted] indicated that they are working on readout requirements [redacted] but are already four days late in getting them to NPIC. NPIC normally requires these requirements four days in advance of launch. [redacted] asked the representatives to try to get their expressions of requirements into EXSUBCOM in better time for future missions so that we will be able to meet NPIC's deadline. [redacted] hopes to get the requirements for this mission to NPIC this afternoon.

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Report from Data Base Working Group

[redacted]

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5. [redacted] reported that the DBWG had had a useful trip to St. Louis and accomplished the two primary purposes for the trip--a look into the master photo chip activities [redacted]

[redacted]

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6. With regard to the [redacted] arena, [redacted] reported that this effort is well under way. He expressed concern that it is not clear exactly how this is tied in to the standard imagery target definition problem and other areas of collection and exploitation. It is quite obvious that there is a need for coordination, assuming ACIC activity continues, and proper coordination between exploitation and collection would avoid much duplication of effort.

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7. With regard to area coverage, there are several families of products available in the community in the form of cumulative coverage indices, each being produced for some specific purpose of its own agency. The DBWG is considering the desirability of working out a single community product on area coverage that could be used to satisfy the needs of all.

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8. [redacted] reported that they had had an excellent presentation on [redacted] organization and operations.

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[redacted]

[redacted]

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9. In response to a question from the Chairman, [Redacted] indicated that he felt it would be desirable for COMIREX to be briefed again by [Redacted] program. They have much more detailed information now and a better concept of how the [Redacted] and [Redacted] fit into the program. [Redacted] commented that [Redacted] is moving in the photo chip arena while we're still trying to figure out how much an SITD costs. [Redacted] to try to set up a briefing sometime in January.

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Section IV (Action Items)

Review of China Requirements

[Redacted]

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1. The Chairman noted that the agenda had Colonel Shelton listed for a review of IDEALIST/TACKLE capability and, later, a discussion of the SAWRF coverage. [Redacted] thought that a review of the entire requirement for photographic coverage of China would seem to be appropriate at this time. He suggested therefore that, following Colonel Shelton's briefing, Colonel Shelton and [Redacted] stay long enough to participate in a discussion of problems involved in achieving adequate photographic coverage of China which he hoped would transcend the SAWRF question and would be helpful in meeting a request from Mr. Carl Duckett and General Ross that, in view of the January deployment of the U-2R, the China requirement be reviewed.

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2. Colonel Shelton advised COMIREX that the U-2R is due to arrive [Redacted] 15 January 1969 and should be operational close to 1 February. Colonel Shelton showed a map pinpointing the SAWRF sites in the north central plain as well as the two areas in the east. He pointed out that in terms of immediate planning, thinking of the U-2C as the reconnaissance vehicle rather than the U-2R, his staff had taken a closer look at various approaches to principal SAWRF locations in eastern China. /Following the meeting COMIREX received a memorandum from the Chairman, SIC, recommending U-2 coverage of the nearly completed facilities at Shih Chia Chuang East and North plus those in early stages of construction at Cheng Chou East and Southeast. / Colonel Shelton figured that it would be possible to reach either of the sites without approaching SA-2's or endangering the U-2 through possible MIG 21 intervention. Colonel Shelton noted that either of the missions should be able to pick up priority targets on the way to and from the SAWRF locations and he remarked that he had asked that targets in the general "en route" areas be placed in priority order. Either mission

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would be over the China mainland for one to one and a half hours. Colonel Shelton also requested that if there is a requirement to cover the areas contiguous to these SAWRF installations, to monitor associated activities, NRO/OSA be provided with specific requirements.

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3. Colonel Shelton advised that his staff had reviewed the various cameras available for the U-2C installation and, interpreting the requirement as presently understood, had decided that the Delta II should be used. Colonel Shelton suggested that one camera could be loaded with black and white film and the other with color. The camera with black and white should get [Redacted] at nadir and the color, [Redacted] Colonel Shelton provided an illustration of the use and comparison of black and white and color and then introduced [Redacted] as the expert on camera and film aspects. [Redacted] illustrated to COMIREX how a combination of black and white and color would provide four dimensions of coverage; high resolution; straight stereo; color; and, combining color and black and white, a high resolution picture in three dimensions.

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4. The Chairman thanked Colonel Shelton and [Redacted] and introduced a general discussion, oriented primarily towards use of the U-2. While reemphasizing the need to cover the SAWRFs before mounding, [Redacted] referred again to his opening remarks about the appropriateness of a review of China requirements at this time and urged that members not forget ^{other} the priorities for the U-2. Weather and geography normally militate heavily against meeting requirements when [Redacted] is our only collection asset.

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5. The Chairman noted that a recent run-up of performance statistics of [Redacted] against the 7A targets showed that 78.5 percent coverage had been achieved against these arrays in the USSR and European Satellites, 76.5 percent against North China, but only

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56.9 percent against 7A arrays in South China. [Redacted] considered it quite manifest that with only three good months for [Redacted] the South China requirement could not be satisfied. With this background, members were urged to make a severe reevaluation of the China requirement and identify all important targets which are being inadequately covered under present circumstances but could be photographed by the U-2R. Whereas it should be easy to pull out all stops on the SAWRF problem because this has received much attention recently, a similar imaginative approach to other problems should not be forgotten.

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*If our intelligence
justice in this
regard is not
acceptable, the
matter should
be pursued in
other forums.*

6. The Department of State member reminded COMIREX that the present political standdown presents a very real problem in considering requirements in terms of U-2 flights. Mr. Moyer then added that his present curb-stone opinion would be that the general coverage being achieved of China is adequate to meet present requirements in the context of the accepted evaluation by the intelligence community of the present threat of Communist China and what still needs to be known. The Department of State member also expressed himself as unconvinced that the SAWRFs present an overriding and urgent intelligence enigma which would dictate the need for the risk of U-2 coverage. Despite the Chairman's statistics to the effect that the next [Redacted] could not get the necessary information on the unmounted SAWRFs before building is completed, this calculation based on six months' building time and the number of looks per mission, most probably divided in half by weather, Mr. Moyer was still unconvinced that he could justify the use of the U-2. The CIA member could not agree with any suggestion that the SAWRFs are not important as intelligence targets but he did subscribe to Mr. Moyer's point on measuring the actual value of the intelligence that might be gained by a U-2. [Redacted] identified the real question as whether the value of additional coverage, multiple coverage, color, better resolution, and other advantages claimed for the U-2, will provide any real answers as to the intended function of the SAWRFs. The CIA member

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requested that the Chairman ask the Chairman, SIC, to provide a precise evaluation as to what analysts and PI's would expect to get from this coverage in terms of value and not mere volume, taking into account timeliness and the considerable contribution

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[redacted]

7. The Chairman agreed to review the question of SAWRFs with SIC while emphasizing that in his estimation the problem is a great deal broader and members should review the entire almanac of requirements in terms of delinquencies and the improved and essential intelligence which the U-2 might collect. [redacted] immediately suggested one additional type of coverage, namely east-west coverage to provide a surveillance of rail lines.

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8. The Chairman next introduced [redacted] former [redacted] and an expert on China. [redacted] noted that he was [redacted] but was now the China Coordinator for the DCI and had been studying the enveloping question of what more could be done to improve the level and credibility of our intelligence on Communist China. [redacted] felt the COMIREX attack on the problem could be very helpful. [redacted] then noted that [redacted] investigation might also be concerned with how thoroughly intelligence that has been collected is being used and, if the intelligence collection effort were improved, would analysts be able to use it to advantage and show a proportionate increase in the level of understanding of Communist China. The Chairman requested that the DIA member use the 7A problem as an example and have it reviewed within his organization. While noting that coverage of 7A over North China is pretty good while that in South China is sub par, [redacted] suggested that a DIA evaluation as to how sure it is of its present estimate, and how much this would be improved by more collection, would be of real interest and useful in guiding COMIREX in recommendations on collection.

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9. [Redacted] requested a brief return to the specific question of the SAWRFs and advised that in response to a prior request from COMIREX, [Redacted] was prepared to report progress on the analysis [Redacted] [Redacted] reported to COMIREX that the coverage of 1105 constituted the best search photography over China in two years. He advised that the task of analysis was not complete and noted that, although initial priority had been given to areas roughly related to SAWRFs, a thorough search was being made of all rail areas. [Redacted] showed a map which illustrated that after half [Redacted] had been evaluated a large area could be negated for MRBM or SAWRF construction. This area was that considered to be of primary SAWRF interest. [Redacted] then pointed to a dashed green section explaining that he would not expect to complete analysis of these rail sections, representing about 25 percent of the total rails, before Christmas. The map was completed by blue rail sections which showed these sections had been covered as late as September, red sections meaning they had not been covered since January 1968, and a dashed red section representing 20 percent of the rails which have not been seen in the past two years. (Tab C)

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10. [Redacted] acknowledged that U-2 missions could give more flexibility in covering SAWRF construction rail sections but stressed the large amount of good coverage already obtained by KH photography. With specific regard to the SAWRFs, [Redacted] emphasized that we shall probably never know the function of these facilities until equipment which can be associated with them has been observed outside of one of them. In [Redacted] estimation, frequent coverage of the mounded SAWRFs could raise the chances of this breakthrough. Turning to the need for coverage of the unmounded SAWRFs, [Redacted] gave it as his opinion that as soon as the telltale equipment has been sighted the intelligence community will ask for a complete analysis of the capability of each installation. Photography taken in the naked stage would be essential to this. In

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concluding his briefing [redacted] reported that the appearance of two new barracks areas north of Shuang Cheng Tzu, and other small indicators by now familiar to the PI's working on the problem, led him to speculate that two new SAWRFs might appear. The Chairman respected NPIC's caution and reluctance to start a false alarm but instructed ICRS to determine the exact location of these areas and program them for coverage.

Feedback Requirements [redacted]

11. [redacted] reported that, at Tuesday's meeting, ICRS had approved a paper to EXSUBCOM on feedback requirements [redacted] but that, subsequent to the meeting, he had received a call from DIA withdrawing approval and requesting that NPIC report back on coverage by World Area Grid (WAG). The memorandum previously approved had requested "...that the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) report the coverage of all COMIREX targets contained in the [redacted] [redacted] The report should list the targets having usable photography (not to include ID only) in COMIREX number order and show the photo reference line." Reporting by WAG has not previously been done by the exploitation people and raises quite a few questions. [redacted] indicated that, pending some resolution of this matter, ICRS cannot provide EXSUBCOM with an agreed paper and sought guidance from the Committee.

12. The discussion that followed indicated that having the coverage on WAGs would be useful in sharpening collection guidance since it is easier to see what has and has not been covered within a given area. However, it was not at all certain as to what the particular requirement on NPIC would be since some aspects of this type of mission coverage indexing already are being done in at least three other places -- by [redacted] office in OSP, with respect to the AMS readout; at DIA in the Photo Coverage File; and at ACIC for detailed readout.

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[Redacted] asked how area coverage was figured and at whose request. [Redacted] replied that it was provided at the request of ICRS and part of the point of the present discussion was that the report provided by [Redacted] would seem to satisfy the DIA requirement for area coverage information.

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[Redacted] takes the [Redacted] [Redacted] digitizes it, and converts it to WAG areas.

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This then goes into holiday area coverage requirements.

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[Redacted] feels that [Redacted] report could be used for feedback and that PI's should not be saddled with a duplicating report. With reference to the fact that ACIC also produces a report, [Redacted] reported that this is done for DIA by ACIC, it takes four months to complete, inputs are very detailed, and he did not feel that this effort is in conflict with the Washington reporting. The ACIC report is sort of a phase III input to the Area Coverage File maintained by DIA.

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13. [Redacted] outlined the present methods of correlation between COMIREX numbers and WAGs. The working community does not regard this as a complicated problem but rather as a simple method of communication. Where the complexity arises, however, is when different agencies decide to pursue different courses in their submissions to ICRS and make it imperative for ICRS to reduce these inputs to a common denominator before submission to NRO. For the last mission, for instance, CIA submitted COMIREX numbers while the DIA targets were in WAG form. ICRS had to do the work to reduce this to a common base before sending it to NRO. The CIA member stated that he did not want the use of numbers, WAG or others, to obscure the identity of targets or intelligence problems in statements of, or responses to, collection or exploitation requirements. [Redacted] observed that, whereas the exploitation side of the house has difficulty understanding WAGs, they still constitute a good format for directing and recording search. [Redacted] considered it would not be impossible to keep records by WAG for area coverage and by COMIREX number for targets. WAGs need not necessarily be regarded as contaminated for the exploitation side of the house so long as targets associated with the WAGs are readily identifiable by a name and a COMIREX number.

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14. The DIA member indicated that DoD would like to have the assurance of an accounting system whereby a record can be tabulated and maintained by WAG on area coverage separate and apart from the records on target coverage. This requirement exceeds that for the KH-4 imagery and will have even greater emphasis when [redacted] search materials become available. The DIA member reported he would ascertain the capability for such reporting in DIA or the mapping organization and report to COMIREX accordingly. The other members agreed.

15. The Chairman then directed [redacted] to get the requirements [redacted] to EXSUBCOM without requiring that NPIC report coverage by WAG.

KH-4 Search--Holidays and Priorities

16. The Chairman raised a question about the statement at the top of the first page concerning the precedence of "Holidays". He felt that a discussion of philosophy was probably called for but that for now the statement should be changed to read "Collection on the following Priority 1 targets will be on a non-interference basis with holidays".

17. Upon being asked whether changing this statement would in fact have an effect on programming, [redacted] indicated that any new guidance compounds an already very complex problem. He felt that COMIREX members would profit from a visit to the NRO to see how the various collection guidance given to it by COMIREX is used in preparing the tapes for programming a specific mission. It was decided that COMIREX members would visit the NRO [redacted] in the Pentagon) on Wednesday, 18 December, at 2:00 p. m.

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Question for Need for GLASS LAMP Coverage of Cuba over Holidays
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18. The Chairman reminded COMIREX that the final decision as to whether GLASS LAMP activity may be suspended during the holidays would be up for consideration at COMIREX on 19 December. He urged that members be up to date on all Cuban intelligence reporting to assist in making this decision. The Chairman referred to the discussion at last week's meeting brought on by the COMINT evidence pointing to unusual military buildup in Eastern Cuba and asked whether anyone had any up-to-date information on where we now stand on this. There is still some naval activity going on on the eastern end of the island that does not seem to be related to the Castro landing anniversary.

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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

Target Nomination Procedure (COMIREX-D-32.2/5) [Redacted]

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1. [Redacted] reported that NPIC had given further consideration to the target nomination procedure paper and could agree in principle with it except for reservations on acceptance of Category 14's being discussed in the procedures paper. [Redacted] in reply to a question from [Redacted] confirmed that the present NPIC activity is confined to tabulating. [Redacted] then expressed some reservations as to whether the tabulating task is the best way to go about support to NIETB and noted that NPIC feels that involvement in reporting and recording is apt to be expensive in manpower and dollars. The CIA member indicated that, as NPIC is currently looking into the cost of support of Category 14, the Center's reservations would appear to be valid. The Chairman, while recognizing the reluctance of NPIC to expend manpower and money unnecessarily, referred to paragraph 2 f. and maintained that the "not necessarily" clause was intended to provide NPIC with the flexibility it now maintains it needs. [Redacted] did not feel that anything in the memorandum before COMIREX would preclude NPIC from making a further study of its support of Category 14 and dropping support if that appeared necessary.

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2. The CIA member requested that COMIREX turn its attention to the more important problem of the "criteria" covering target nomination and the procedures to be followed. [Redacted] requested that members take a draft memorandum, passed out by him, back to their offices for consideration in depth. He also advised members that he would recommend that the criteria memorandum be the principal paper and that the target nomination procedures memorandum be an attachment to it. The CIA member felt that he could not emphasize too strongly the fact that the criteria paper is a most important adjunct to understanding of the concepts of nomination and, logically, should provide the basis for the procedures to be used in making nominations.

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3. The Chairman urged that, pending an opportunity for members to study [redacted] paper, the use of the nomination form as in COMIREX-D-32.2/5 be approved in principle. [redacted] while not opposing this recommendation, observed that up to now the absence of an approved nomination procedure has not precluded targets being submitted for collection. The Chairman and the DIA member confirmed that, indeed, business had been conducted as usual and without interference with collections. The Chairman, EXSUBCOM, considered, however, that an approved procedure and a standard format for target nomination is essential for getting a target in for exploitation when collection action is not involved. Without a procedure such as this, EXSUBCOM does not have a way of getting their first- and second-phase requirements in for exploitation except in an ad hoc fashion.

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4. The Chairman concluded further discussion with an agreement that members should return to their offices with [redacted] draft on criteria for target nomination, study it, and be prepared to discuss it next week. In addition, the Chairman requested that, in order to facilitate the implementation of a uniform nomination procedure, the use of the nomination form be approved in principle. In this respect, [redacted] made it a matter of record that criteria cannot be separated from procedure and that in effect the procedure paper should not be published without the criteria paper. The Chairman was of the firm opinion that procedures are followed with good intentions, to the best of the ability of the community, and with the understanding there is always room for reinterpretation and change. The last paragraph of COMIREX-D-32.2/5 would appear to confirm this intention. The Chairman approved the interim use of the nomination form and the instructions which are specific to use of the form.

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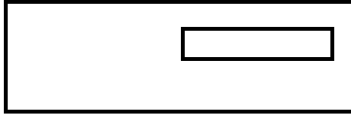
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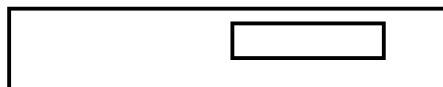
Request to Downgrade BLACK SHIELD Photography in Target
Folders from SECRET to CONFIDENTIAL (Draft for
COMIREX-D-2.13/1)

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5. COMIREX approved that the draft request to downgrade BLACK SHIELD photography be forwarded to the Executive Secretary, USIB. The Chairman, SDWG, noted that because of previous USIB actions on BLACK SHIELD referral is necessary but it is hoped that telephone concurrence or action short of referral to the Board will be possible. /This paper was disseminated to USIB as USIB-D-46.2/9 (COMIREX-D-2.13/1), 13 December 1968./

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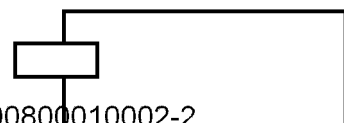


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Section VI (Other Business)

Proposed Trip to West Coast

[Redacted]

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1. [Redacted] reported that it would not be possible at this time to schedule two separate orientation trips to the West Coast facilities, so recommended instead that the number of persons on the one trip be limited to 20 or 25 rather than the 15 originally agreed upon. Members are to notify [Redacted] of their nominees, bearing in mind the limitation on the total number of participants.

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2. It was agreed that the agenda suggested by [Redacted] was about what was wanted. This included trips to Edwards and to Beale so involved a very full week of travel, orientation, and briefing. The trip will be scheduled sometime in February, the exact date to be reported back to us by [Redacted] next week.

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[Redacted]

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Executive Secretary

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachment

Tab B

Tab C (Briefing Map)

- Copies 5, 6 State TCO
- 7 DIA ([Redacted])
- 8-11 DIA TCO
- 12, 13 OACSI TCO
- 14, 15 ONI TCO
- 16, 17 AFNIN TCO
- 18, 19 NSA TCO
- 20, 21, 22 NRO TCO

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