

NRO, DIA & USAF REVIEWS COMPLETED

TABS

THROUGHOUT

FILE

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COMIREX 7/11/74

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Control Systems Jointly [redacted] COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION
COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974

Following is an index of the minutes of the 21 February 1974
COMIREX Meeting:

Section I (Briefings)

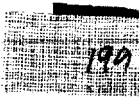
- Page 5 Imagery Resolution Assessment and Reporting Standards
- Page 5 EXRAND Technical Task Team Report
- Page 6 Grain Project [redacted] Status Report

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Section II (Operations)

- Page 7 [redacted]
- Page 7 Aircraft and Drone Activities

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Section III (Action Items)

- Page 8 [redacted]
- Page 9 [redacted]

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Section IV (Other Business)

See Special Annex, forwarded separately. [redacted] 1 April 1974)

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Section V (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

- None [redacted]

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Attachments

Tab A

[redacted]

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Tab B

EXRAND Technical Task Team Report--FY 1974-1975
Consolidated R&D Project List.

Tab C

Grain Project [redacted] Status Report. (Distributed
separately. See [redacted])

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Tab D

[redacted]

Tab E

Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity

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BRIEFERS

Imagery Resolution Assessment and Reporting Standards (IRARS)

EXRAND Technical Task Team Report

[redacted]

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Grain Project [redacted] Status Report

ALTERNATES AND OBSERVERS PRESENT

A listing of Alternates and Observers present at this meeting is on file in the Office of the Chairman.

[redacted]

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974

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[redacted]

Section I (Briefings)

Imagery Resolution Assessment and Reporting Standards

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1. [redacted] Chairman of the NRO Task Force on Imagery Resolution Assessment and Reporting Standards (IRARS), briefed on the background and activities of his task force.* Copies of briefing aids used by [redacted] have been forwarded separately as Tab A to these Minutes.

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25X1A

[redacted] 2231-74)

25X1A

2. [redacted] expected the Task Force would run a bit behind the 15 March target date for completion of a draft report. Although the draft report will not be widely distributed, there will be detailed briefings available. The final document will be given limited distribution because of its bulk.

EXRAND Technical Task Team Report

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3. [redacted] introduced [redacted] Chairman of the EXRAND Technical Task Team, to summarize the exploitation research and development programs currently being undertaken by community elements for FY 1974 and those proposed for FY 1975.** Since September, the Task Team has been examining and consolidating the various programs and has had a degree of success in identifying and facilitating the elimination of unwarranted duplication of effort. This has been possible primarily because of the continuing communication and exchange of information between members throughout the year. An effort is being made to acquire data on R&D programs proposed for FY 1976 and beyond in order to make an assessment in that era as well. Copies of the briefing charts used by [redacted] have been forwarded separately as Tab B to these Minutes.

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*See COMIREX-M-196, Section III, paragraphs 8 and 9.

**See COMIREX-D-33.5/1, 28 February 1974

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[Redacted]

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4. The Chairman thanked [Redacted] for a very comprehensive and worthwhile report, noting his personal satisfaction with the way this activity is handled. He felt the Task Team deserves much credit and commended it on behalf of the Committee.

25X1A

Grain Project [Redacted] Status Report*

25X1A

5. [Redacted] CIA, explained that Project [Redacted] deals with the examination of a number of intelligence information sources in terms of their relevancy to developing estimates and forecasts of foreign crop production, particularly spring wheat in the Soviet Union. CIA has responsibility for making these estimates for the USSR and China and accuracy is becoming increasingly critical as the world food situation fluctuates. He pointed out that no single source can provide all the data necessary to arrive at an estimate of crop production. Satellite imagery, however, has been a vital factor in the overall assessment process as have meteorological and historical data.

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25X1D

[Redacted]

NRO

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7 [Redacted]

8. The Chairman thanked [Redacted] for his presentation and suggested he continue to work through ICRS with regard to requirements for coverage. Copies of selected briefing aids used by [Redacted] are being distributed separately as Tab C to these Minutes. [Redacted]

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*See COMIREX-M-188, Section I, paragraphs 4-9, and Tab A.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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21 February 1974

[redacted]

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Section II (Operations)

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[redacted]
1. [redacted]

Aircraft and Drone Activities

2. Reports on aircraft and drone activities during the period 7-20 February 1974 are attached at Tab E. [redacted] reported weather in North Vietnam has improved so GIANT SCALE missions can be flown again. One flown on 13 February had to be aborted but another is planned reasonably soon. [redacted]

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[redacted]

GIANT SCALE is being backed up with a second aircraft. [redacted] noted, however, that only the primary aircraft is equipped with an Optical Bar Camera (OBC) so only TEOC coverage will be obtained whenever the second aircraft is used.

25X1D

25X1A
25X1C

3. [redacted] reported the new cameras installed in [redacted] aircraft* are now operational. They are getting [redacted] per millimeter, a major improvement over the quality of imagery obtained with the previous equipment.

*See COMIREX-M-196, Section IV, paragraph 3.

[redacted]

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EX-M-199
21 February 1974
Tab E

AIRCRAFT AND DRONE RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITY
7 - 20 February 1974

FAR EAST

BUFFALO HUNTER

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
8 Feb	956/QA247	Central Highlands Search (RVN)	Lost*
8 Feb	967/QA249	Highlands Corridors Search (Cambodia, RVN)	MARS**
12 Feb	958/QA250	Hwy L13, 14A, 239; Area Search (Laos, Cambodia, RVN)	MARS
12 Feb	324/QA251	Hwy 160, 92, 96, 19, 14 (Laos, RVN)	MARS
13 Feb	965/QA252	Hwy 9, 92, 234, 914, 925 (Laos)	MARS
13 Feb	739/QA253	Hwy 8, 12, 23, 121, 122, 123, 911 (Laos)	MARS
15 Feb	319T/QA254	Hwy 13, 131, 14, Area Search (Cambodia, RVN)	MARS
15 Feb	942/QA255	Hwy 9, Khe Sanh SAM Sites (Laos, RVN)	MARS
18 Feb	956/QA256	Central Highlands Search (RVN)	MARS
18 Feb	309A/QA257	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Hwy 9 (Laos, RVN)	MARS

* cause unknown
** Mid-Air Recovery System

GIANT SCALE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
10 Feb	SA030	Korea DMZ	90% cloud free
13 Feb	SB043	NVN Overflight (did not penetrate)	Air Abort
15 Feb	SB044	Laos, RVN	90% cloud free
18 Feb	SA029	Korea, DMZ	33% cloud free

OLYMPIC MEET

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
9 Feb	TA-25	Cambodia, RVN	96% cloud free

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Tab E

CHURCHDOOR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Type of Mission</u>
12 Feb	C044C	Taiwan Straits	Photo

CUBA

OLYMPIC FIRE

No Activity.

E-2

[redacted]

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COMIREX Min

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Special Annex

[redacted]

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1 April 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Members and Consultants

SUBJECT : Special Annex to COMIREX-M-199

The attached Special Annex to COMIREX-M-199 covering the 21 February 1974 COMIREX meeting is forwarded for your review and record.

[redacted]

Executive Secretary

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachment

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Special Annex

Special Annex

Section IV (Other Business)

Advanced System Application to Middle East Crisis

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1. [redacted] referred to discussion at the last COMIREX meeting on action under way to provide a simulation of [redacted] activity during the recent Middle East crisis and assess the contribution it might have made.* The report is being done in two phases with the first covering the pre-war period up to 6 October and the second covering the period of the war itself. [redacted] of the CIA Special Study Group presented briefings on the current status of work on these simulations.

25X1A

2. The Chairman noted it is obvious there is still much work to be done. As reflected in today's briefings, the computer simulator available at this time to work the problem must be thought of as only a base case. It will be necessary to superimpose on this and do additional work to relate the particular imaging operations to specific problems being faced at the time the war was going on.

*See COMIREX-M-198 - Special Annex.

[redacted]

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974

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3 April 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

SUBJECT : Transmittal of Tab C to COMIREX-M-199

Copies of selected briefing aids used by [redacted] in his 21 February 1974 briefing to COMIREX on Project [redacted] are forwarded herewith for information and record. They have been designated Tab C to COMIREX-M-199.

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[redacted]

Executive Secretary
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

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Attachment

[redacted]

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Tab C

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GRAIN PROJECT [redacted]

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Briefing to COMIREX
21 February 1974

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WHEAT MONITORING PROGRAM

PREMISES

Wheat is the major food crop of the world

Because of disparity in supply and demand, food grains are an international asset

U.S. will continue as the major exporter of wheat grain

USSR & PRC will continue to be major competitors for world wheat supply

CIA will continue to bear major responsibility for producing grain production estimates on USSR & PRC

All imagery is essential to estimating wheat production in denied areas

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COMBUDY FILE

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SECRET COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Tab B

29 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

SUBJECT : EXRAND Technical Task Team Report--FY 1974-1975 Consolidated R & D Project List (Tab B to COMIREX-M-199)

Copies of the briefing aids used by Chairman of the EXRAND Technical Task Team, in his briefing to COMIREX on community-wide exploitation research and development programs currently being undertaken and those proposed for FY 1975, are forwarded herewith for information and record. They have been designated Tab B to COMIREX-M-199 and should be attached or cross-referenced to that Minute in your files.



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Executive Secretary
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachment

SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E. O. 11652, AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS AND DECLASSIFIED ON
...December 1980...
(Insert date or event)

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Tab B

TECHNICAL TASK TEAM REPORT

FY-1974-1975

CONSOLIDATED R&D PROJECT LIST

Briefing to COMIREX
21 February 1974

NPIC
Chairman, EXRAND Technical Task Team

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COMIREX-M-199
21 February 1974
Tab B

6TH ANNUAL REPORT FY-74-75

- **2 EDITIONS**
- **COORDINATED THROUGHOUT
COMMUNITY**
- **REQUEST EXRAND APPROVAL**
- **DISTRIBUTE IN DECEMBER**

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COMIREX-M-198

7 February 1974

Special Annex

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25 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Members and Consultants

SUBJECT : Special Annex To COMIREX-M-198

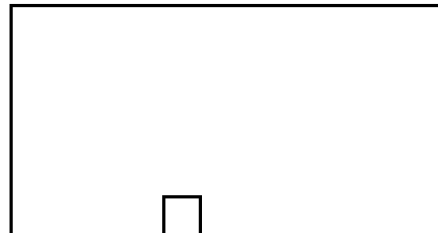
The attached Special Annex to COMIREX-M-198 covering the 7 February 1974 COMIREX meeting is forwarded for your review and record. Copies of selected briefing aids used in a DIA presentation on a Video Transmission Experiment (Tab A) are also attached.



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Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachments



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COMIREX-M-198
7 February 1974
Special Annex
Tab A

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IMAGERY TRANSMISSION CONCEPTS

FOR

WASHINGTON AREA SUPPORT

OF

THE NATIONAL COMMAND AUTHORITY

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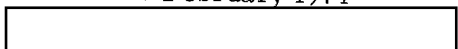
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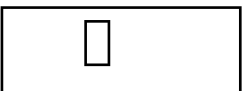
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Briefing to COMIREX
7 February 1974



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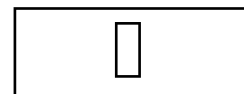
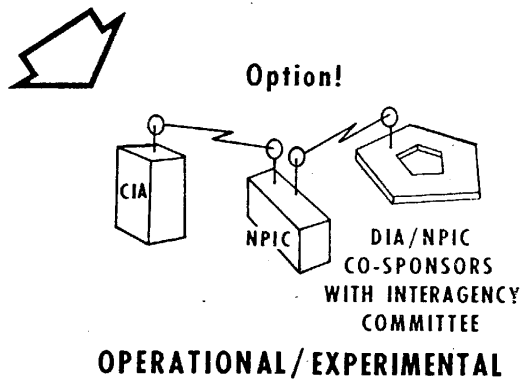
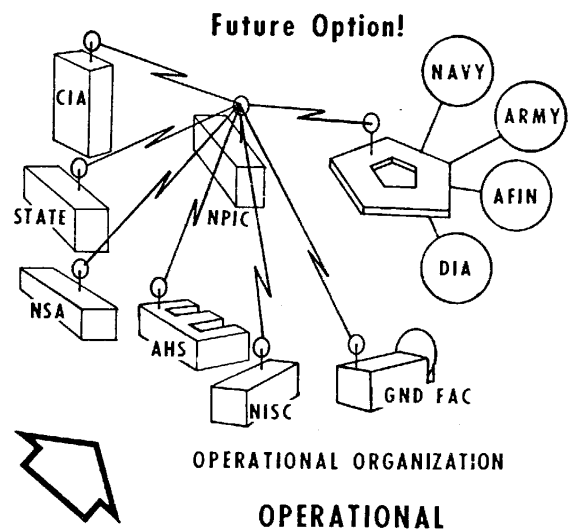
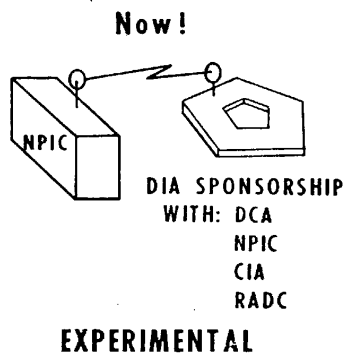
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SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

COMIREX-M-198
7 February 1974
Special Annex
Tab A

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7 February 1974

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION
COMIREX-M-198
7 February 1974

Following is an index of the minutes of the 7 February 1974
COMIREX Meeting:

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Page 5 GIANT REACH Middle East Highlights

Page 5 Video Transmission Experiment

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Section II (Operations)

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Page 6 Aircraft and Drone Activities

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Section III (Action Items)

Page 6 Middle East Review

Page 7 [redacted]

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Section IV (Other Business)

[redacted]

Section V (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

None [redacted]

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7 February 1974

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Attachments

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Tab B

[Redacted]

Tab C

Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity

Special Annex

Tab A

DIA Presentation on a Video Transmission Experiment

(Distributed separately. See

[Redacted]

25 March 1974)

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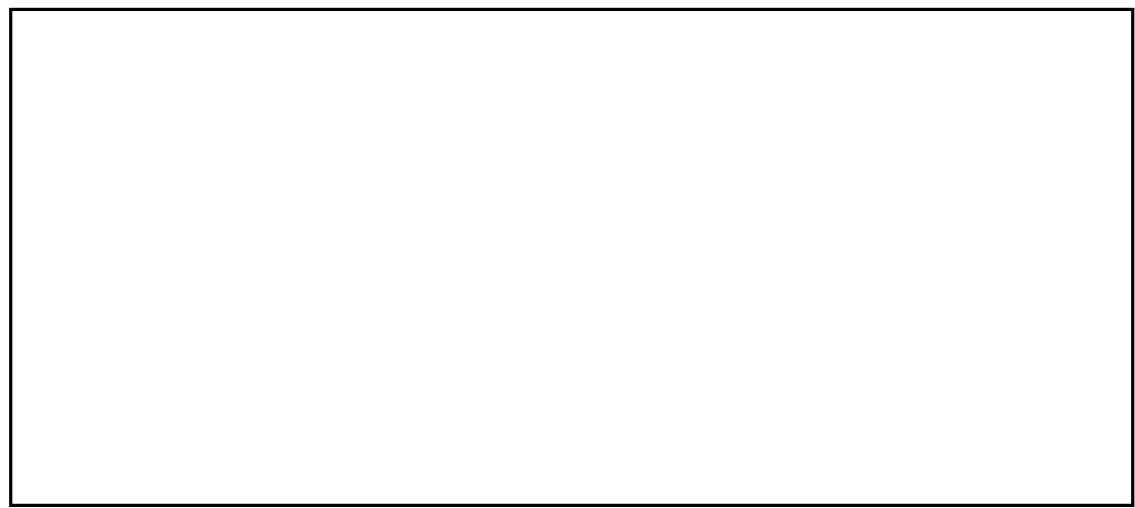
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Section I (Briefings)



GIANT REACH Middle East Highlights

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2. [redacted] briefed on results from the 25 January GIANT REACH mission.

Video Transmission Experiment

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3. [redacted] referred to the 2 August 1973 briefing of the Committee on this activity.* [redacted] of DIA would provide an update today on the status of the experiment and plans for its continuation in FY 1974 and 1975. Copies of selected briefing aids used are being forwarded as Tab A with the Special Annex to these Minutes

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25X1D

[redacted] 25 March 1974).

4. Asked about near-term plans, [redacted] reported the experiment is still in the early stages. Only a few pictures have actually been passed. These were unclassified photographs and were not encrypted in transmission. Response has been favorable, however, from those who have seen the transmitted imagery. [redacted] stressed that this is an experimental study only and the equipment being used may or may not be the system the community would adopt.

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5. The Chairman considered this an area of continuing interest for COMIREX and invited members to keep the Committee informed of any similar developments or activities in their own organization.

*See Special Annex and Tab E to COMIREX-M-187.

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COMIREX-M-198

7 February 1974

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Section II (Operations)

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[Redacted]
1. [Redacted]

Aircraft and Drone Activities

2. Reports on aircraft and drone activities during the period 26 January - 6 February are attached at Tab C.

3. With regard to the outlook for a GIANT SCALE mission over North Vietnam, [Redacted] reported weather is checked daily and a mission will fly as soon as favorable weather is predicted. Aircraft have been on a day-to-day weather-hold for a mission since 15 January.

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Section III (Action Items)

Middle East Review

1. The Chairman referred to the memorandum discussed at last meeting on current planning for Middle East aircraft reconnaissance. As promised at that time, copies of the completed memorandum had been distributed to members on 29 January* and he wanted to call special attention to the sensitivity of this document.

NRO
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2. [Redacted]

*COMIREX-D-29.3/14, 29 January 1974

**COMIREX-D-29.3/15, 1 February 1974

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5. The Chairman felt the proposed guidance made for a well-structured mission. The special problems envisaged are valid factors and the proportionality of priorities appears sound. Members were asked to review the proposed guidance and notify the Executive Secretary of their concurrence or comments by noon, Monday, 11 February.*

Section IV (Other Business)

See Special Annex, forwarded separately.

[redacted]

25 March 1974)

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*The approved guidance was subsequently forwarded to the NRO as COMIREX-D-14.13/10, 11 February 1974

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7 February 1974
Tab C

Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity
24 January - 6 February 1974

FAR EAST

BUFFALO HUNTER

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
29 Jan	953/QA236	Hwy 13, 22, 246, Trai Bi Afld, KaTum Afld (RVN)	MARS*
29 Jan	936/QA237	Hwy 23, 4, 16, 18, 13 (Laos)	MARS
30 Jan	958/QA238	Saigon Area Search, Hwy 13, 14, 239 (Laos, Cambodia, RVN)	MARS
30 Jan	309A/QA239	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Hwy 9, Area Search (Laos, RVN)	MARS
2 Feb	957/QA240	Hwy 9222, 234, 914, 911, A Shau Afld, Ta Bat Afld (Laos, RVN)	MARS
2 Feb	317A/QA242	Hwy 14, Highlands Corridors Search Areas (Laos, RVN)	MARS
5 Feb	324/QA244	Hwy 160, 92, 96, 512, 19, Highlands Area (Laos, RVN)	MARS ^{1/}
6 Feb	948/QA245	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Khe Sanh Afld, Hwy 9 (Laos, RVN)	MARS
6 Feb	950/QA246	Hwy 548, 9222, 914, Tchzone, A Shau Afld (Laos, RVN)	MARS

*Mid-Air Recovery System
1/ Camera malfunction.

GIANT SCALE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
24 Jan	SB040	Laos, RVN	70% cloud free
30 Jan	SA028A	Korea DMZ	10% cloud free
2 Feb	SB041	Laos, RVN	50% cloud free
6 Feb	SB042	Laos, Cambodia, RVN, Paracel Islands	70% cloud free

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7 February 1974
Tab C

OLYMPIC MEET

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
25 Jan	TA021	Cambodia, Laos, RVN	45% cloud free
29 Jan	TA022	Laos, Cambodia	0% cloud free
31 Jan	TA023	Laos, Cambodia	10% cloud free
		recalled	

CHURCHDOOR

No activity.

CUBA

OLYMPIC FIRE

No activity.

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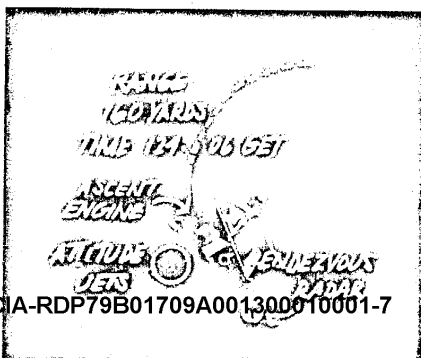
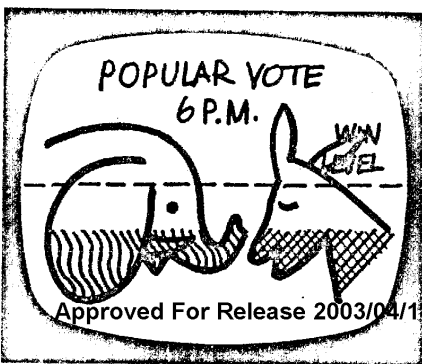
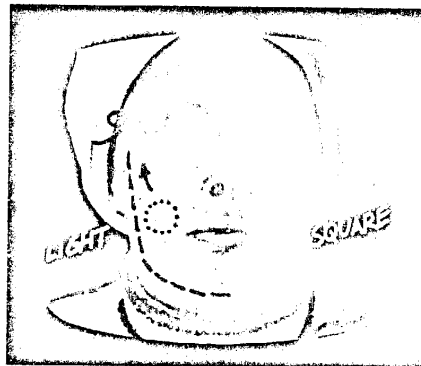
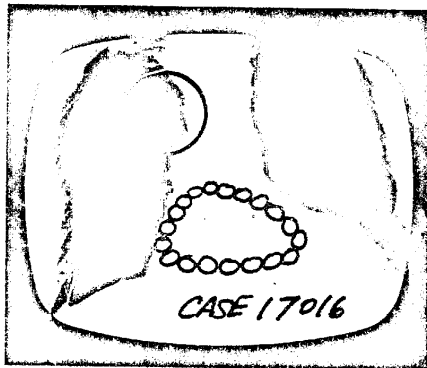
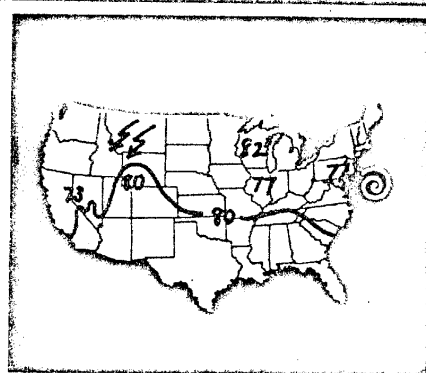
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24 January 1974

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION
COMIREX-M-197
24 January 1974



Following is an index of the minutes of the 24 January 1974
COMIREX Meeting:

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Section I (Briefings)

Page 5 [redacted]

Page 5 AFSPPF Phase-Down

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Section II (Operations)

Page 9 [redacted]

Page 9 Aircraft and Drone Activities

Section III (Action Items)

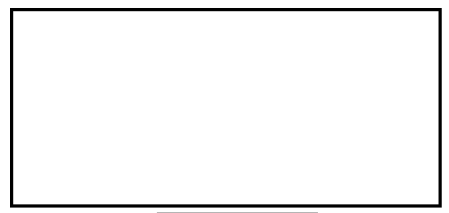
Page 9 Middle East Review

Section IV (Other Business)

Page 10 TALENT-KEYHOLE Modification Guidelines

Section V (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

None

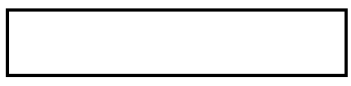


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WARNING NOTICE
Sensitive Intelligence Sources
and Methods Involved.

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24 January 1974

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Attachments

Tab A Proposed Phase Down and Closure of AFSPPF

Tab B [redacted] Exercise--Status Report (Distributed separately. See [redacted] 28 January 1974)

Tab C [redacted]

Tab D Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity

Special Annex

Tab E Proposal for COMIREX Data Handling Coordination Group (Distributed separately. See [redacted] 27 January 1974)

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Section I (Briefings)

[redacted]

AFSPPF Phase -Down

2. As requested by the Chairman at last COMIREX meeting, * the NRO Consultant arranged for a briefing by [redacted] today on the NRO proposal to phase down the Air Force Special Projects Production Facility (AFSPPF) at Westover Air Force Base. This facility has served as an alternate to Eastman Kodak at Rochester for the processing of satellite film.

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3. [redacted] reported the decision to phase down and eventually close the NRO's Westover facility was made on 19 October 1973 as a result of the Secretary of Defense directive that Westover Air Force Base was to be closed, except for reserve activities and certain active Air Force requirements, by the end of June 1974.

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4. The longer-range concept for processing operations in response to this situation calls for the 544th Aerospace Reconnaissance Technical Wing (ARTW) at Offutt Air Force Base to become the NRO alternate/backup facility. Eastman Kodak will fulfill 90 percent of the NRO production requirement and the backup facility will provide 10 percent. Until the 544th ARTW is operational, however, the AFSPPF at Westover will operate on a phased-down basis. The phase down will begin approximately 1 April 1974.

[redacted]

*See COMIREX-M-196, Section IV, paragraphs 1-2.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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5. Factors contributing to the selection of the 544th ARTW included (a) proximity to major users of photographic intelligence information (SAC Headquarters and the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff); (b) existence of a facility experienced in handling and processing satellite photographic materials; (c) presence of necessary operational support functions at SAC, including runways that are open on a 24-hour basis, and base support facilities in being; (d) ability to easily expand the photo lab and install the unique equipment required at a minimum cost. The Chairman asked what costs would be involved, but [redacted] indicated that precise data would not be available until architectural and engineering studies have been completed. [redacted] stressed the point the lab to be constructed would be an addition to SAC's present lab which is located inside the existing Martin Plant; hence, construction costs would exclude such major expenses as foundations, exterior walls, and roof costs.

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6. The evaluation function performed at Westover will be transferred to NPIC and will, [redacted] felt, allow for an excellent working relationship between NPIC technical analysts and photo interpreters involved on mission work. This working relationship between Westover analysts and NPIC PI's exists now, but having the two types of expertise in the same facility will enhance the relationship even more. Photo research and development (R&D) will be continued through the auspices of the NRO.

7. Two working groups have been established to accomplish this phase-down and transfer of functions: (1) A 544th ARTW Facility Working Group with responsibility to accomplish and oversee A&E and contractual work, and (2) an AFSPPF Closure Study Group concerned with the whole problem. [redacted] noted he sees no changes in the working of this system that will affect COMIREX or other consumers. Functions will continue to be carried out except at different locations.

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[redacted]

8. The Chairman expressed interest in how the processing backup will be handled from mid-1974 to completion of the expanded facilities at SAC in late 1975. [redacted] indicated that the AFSPPF at Westover will not be closing in June, but will be phased down to approximately 50% of its present manning and provide 10% of the NRO production requirement. The evaluation and research and development functions will remain unchanged in the initial production phase-down period. It is anticipated the 544th ARTW will be fully operational in the December 1975/March 1976 time frame. Approximately 40 people will be transferred from Westover to Omaha along with major equipment items. ASDI has given assurance those 40 people will be exempt from General Defense Intelligence Program (GDIP) budget cuts. The personnel will be organizationally assigned to the 544th ARTW and will have the normal command line from the Commander, SAC, but when functions are being performed for the NRO, the command line changes and is directly from the DNRO to the processing facility. The NRO will continue to provide support in regard to film, chemistry, equipment, and technical assistance.

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9. The evaluation function will be transferred to the NPIC which is anticipated to assume full responsibility for this function about September 1975.

[redacted]

Approximately 30 people will be reassigned to Headquarters, USAF, and will be physically working in Building 213. Necessary equipment will be transferred with the people. Photographic research and development will continue as a responsibility of the NRO. The transition should be completed in the September/December 1975 time-frame after which the AFSPPF facility can be closed.

10. In answer to a query from the Chairman, [redacted] said final determination has not been made as to where the R&D functions retained by the NRO will be carried out. Various facilities in the Washington area and on the West Coast are being reviewed.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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11. The question of the distribution of the 10% of the film to be produced at the AFSPPF has not been totally resolved. At present, material for Priority 3 and 4 consumers produced at the AFSPPF is moved by a combination of dedicated aircraft from Westover or by Armed Forces Courier System (ARFCOS) resources from Boston. To function with the reductions in personnel and eventual closing of the AFSPPF, a tentative system has been developed with EXSUBCOM participation wherein materials delivered by dedicated aircraft to the Washington area would be put into the ARFCO's system at Fort Meade. DIA envisages it will need about three additional positions to support this effort.

12. There will be no requirement for physical expansion of Eastman Kodak to handle the additional production workload. [redacted] pointed out that, looking at this from a capability point of view, once the processing equipments have been certified and processing begun under the new production concept it is theoretically possible to ship material to DoD consumers earlier than at present.

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13. The Chairman expressed interest in what facilities other than Offutt had been considered as a backup facility. [redacted] stated that the organizations included the 480th RTG at TAC, Langley Air Force Base, which was studied in great depth, as well as Washington area labs such as at NISC and DC-6. Some consideration was also given to the 9th RTS lab at Beale Air Force Base, California. [redacted] did not know what the over-riding factors may have been in the final selection, but emphasized again that the 544th ARTW provides advantages from a cost point of view since there is room for expansion within the present building, i. e., the Martin Plant where the lab is located.

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14. Beginning in late 1975 or early 1976, the 544th ARTW will routinely produce 10% of the copies required. The final decision on specific consumers to be serviced by the 544th ARTW has not been made; however, the NRO has been working with EXSUBCOM on this question. The Chairman felt this is an area with many subtleties and suggested the Chairman, EXSUBCOM continue to serve as the focal point to maintain an evaluation of this activity and to advise COMIREX and the NRO on appropriate actions to be taken. The Chairman thanked [redacted] for a most informative briefing. Copies of [redacted] briefing aids and notes are attached as Tab A.

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24 January 1974

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Section II (Operations)

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2.

[redacted]

Aircraft and Drone Activities

3. Reports presented on aircraft and drone activities during the period 10-23 January 1974 are attached at Tab D.

Section III (Action Items)

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Middle East Review

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2. [Redacted] referred to concepts for reconnaissance of the areas covered by the recent Middle East disengagement agreement. The Chairman and members of the staff have been working with the National Intelligence Officer for the Middle East to develop possible approaches for handling this. [Redacted] outlined the factors involved and his views on these. He agreed to keep the Committee informed as to further developments and to provide, for their information, copies of the paper being prepared as soon as it is completed.*

Section IV (Other Business)

TALENT-KEYHOLE Modification Guidelines

NRO
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1. The Chairman noted that the guidelines proposed for implementation of the second phase of T-KH modification, [Redacted] have gone forward to the [Redacted]

[Redacted]

The problem has been to develop guidelines which are sufficiently comprehensive to be useable by field elements in making that selection. In most respects the community is not ready to do that in detail. The guidelines forwarded to USIB provide that supplementing guidance on this point will be formulated and issued by COMIREX. The intent here is to call attention to the fact that it is recognized that protection of [Redacted] quality will be difficult and will require further study and experience and the distribution of additional guidance.

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*Subsequently forwarded in limited distribution as COMIREX-D-29. 3/14, 29 January 1974.

**See USIB-D-46.2/30 (COMIREX-D-2.2/6, 18 January 1974; Subsequently approved by the Board and issued by the Director of Central Intelligence as USIB-D-46.2/31, 1 February 1974.

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24 January 1974

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3. It is expected that many questions regarding particular applications will surface and this is why the present guidelines are specifically labeled as "interim". The Chairman asked that this latter point be made clear in all member agencies and departments concerned. It should be emphasized to all components that as problems arise they can be negotiated and the present guidelines revised as required.

*See COMIREX-M-192, Section I, paragraphs 2-4.

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Tab A

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Proposed
PHASE DOWN AND CLOSURE
of
AIR FORCE SPECIAL PROJECTS PRODUCTION FACILITY (AFSPPF)

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Briefing to COMIREX
24 January 1974

[Redacted] NRO

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COMIREX-M-197
24 January 1974
Tab A

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PRESENT FUNCTIONS:

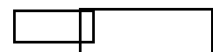
- PRODUCTION
- EVALUATION
- PHOTO R&D

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DECISION:

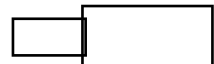
- PHASE DOWN 90/10
- CLOSE
- ESTABLISH NRO BACK-UP PRODUCTION FACILITY
- TRANSFER EVALUATION AND PHOTO R&D

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24 January 1974
Tab A

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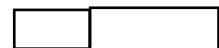
- PRODUCTION/BACK-UP TO 544th ARTW
 - DEC 75 - MAR 76
- EVALUATION TO NPIC
 - SEP 75
- PHOTO R&D TO NRO
 - SEP - DEC 75

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SECURITY ASPECTS:

- AFSPPF PHASE DOWN AND ULTIMATE CLOSURE -
DOD SECRET
- EXPANSION OF 544th ARTW LAB TO PROCESS
SATELLITE MATERIAL - TALENT/KEYHOLE
- EXPANSION OF 544th ARTW LAB WITH NO
EXPLANATION - UNCLASSIFIED
- TYING THE 544th ARTW AND AFSPPF TOGETHER -
TALENT/KEYHOLE
- PHOTO ASSOCIATION OF AFSPPF -
TALENT/KEYHOLE
- PHASE DOWN IN LINE WITH CLOSURE OF
WESTOVER AFB - UNCLASSIFIED

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Tab A

AFSPPF PHASE DOWN AND CLOSURE

Classification

Title

Present Functions

Back-up to EK and alternate NRO processing facility - belongs to General Bradburn at SAFSP in L.A.

- Production:
- Approx 45% of NRO requirement
 - All Target Complexes
 - Produces most of DOD customer requirements (DIA-SAC)
 - Presently handles distribution task (enter into ARFCOS)

- Evaluation:
- Accomplishes acceptance and readiness evaluation test work for camera sub-system.
 - Accomplishes [redacted]
 - Evaluation is sole responsibility of program manager; i.e., SAFSP.

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Tab A

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- Photo R&D:
- Accomplishes R&D on processors, processees, printers, film, chemistry.
 - Also work on production oriented equipment.
 - Has been phased to look at near future areas versus immediate fixes.

Decision

- Secretary of the Air Force decided on 19 Oct 73 to phase down and transfer all of AFSPPF functions.
- Contributing factors
 - o Secretary of Defense directed closure of Westover AFB by June 1974 except for Reserve activities and some limited active Air Force requirements.
 - o Difficulty obtaining support when normal base functions phase out.

Phase Down 90/10: - Eastman Kodak will assume 90% of the NRO work load for processing with SPPF and or back up producing 10%.

- [redacted]

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Tab A

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Close: - When all functions have been relocated the physical facility at Westover will be closed.

Establish NRO Back-up Production Facility: - Back-up is required in case of catastrophic disaster at the prime site.

- 544th ARTW chosen as the NRO back-up facility.
- Contributing factors for choice:
 - o Close to a major user of photo intelligence
 - o Presently works with satellite reconnaissance projects.
 - o Represents an existing capability.
 - o Minimum cost to expand.
 - o Necessary support functions in place.

Transfer Evaluation and Photo R&D: - Evaluation function will be re-located at NPIC.

- o Provides an excellent working relationship between the NPIC analyst/PI and the evaluation personnel.

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Tab A

- Photo R&D will be continued thru the auspices of the NRO.

Other Factors:

- Two working groups established to work out movement plans:
 - 1) 544th ARTW Facility Work Group and
 - 2) AFSPPF Closure Study Group

Transfer

- NRO in conjunction with the Closure Study Group has determined milestones and transfer dates.
- As regards COMIREX and customers of this material, no change is anticipated nor should any be expected in the working of the system.

Production/Backup to 544th ARTW: - It is anticipated that the new NRO facility will be operational between Dec 75 - Mar 76.

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COMIREX-M-197
24 January 1974
Tab A

- 40 people will be transferred from SPPF to Omaha.
- These 40 people will be protected from GDIP cuts.
- In place production equipment at SPPF will be moved to Omaha into a newly constructed lab expansion.
- The NRO will provide film and chemistry, equipment update, repair and technical assistance to accomplish NRO tasking.
- The Command line at the 544th will be out of SAC as presently established. However, when the functions being performed at the 544th are for the NRO, then the command line and control rests thru the DNRO.

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Evaluation: - This function will be transferred to NPIC. Anticipate an operational capability in Sep 75. This is contingent on flight and camera sub-system acceptance/readiness schedules.

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24 January 1974

Tab A

- 30 spaces will be transferred to HQ USAF in Washington to perform this function.
- All necessary equipment will be moved from SPPF to NPIC.
- Responsibilities
 - o Flight acceptance and readiness work is the sole responsibility of the program manager - SAFSP.
 - o PET/PFA work will be a joint responsibility shared by SAFSP and NPIC.

Photo_R&D: - This function is the responsibility of the NRO.
- The continuation and assignment from SPPF will be completed during Sep-Dec 75.

Other: Distribution of mission material to DOD customers requires final coordination since a civilian contractor will be producing the DOD requirement.

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COMBEX-M-197

24 January 1974

Tab A

Security Aspects:

- AFSPPF Phase Down and Ultimate Closure - DOD SECRET
- Expansion of 544th ARTW Lab to Process Satellite Material - TALENT/KEYHOLE
- Expansion of 544th ARTW Lab with no Explanation - UNCLASSIFIED
- Tying the 544th ARTW and AFSPPF Together - TALENT/KEYHOLE
- Photo Association of AFSPPF - TALENT/KEYHOLE
- Phase Down in line with Closure of Westover AFB - UNCLASSIFIED

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COMPLEX M-197
24 January 1974
Tab D

Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity
10 - 23 January 1974

FAR EAST

GIANT REACH

No activity.

BUFFALO HUNTER

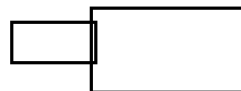
<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
10 Jan	324/QA219	Hwy 160, 9E, 96A-D, 92F, 512 (Laos, RVN)	MARS *
12 Jan	950/QA222	Hwy 548A-C, 914A-B, 922B, Tchepone, AShau Aflld (Laos, RVN)	MARS
12 Jan	948/QA223	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Hwy 9, Khe Sanh Aflld (Laos, RVN)	MARS
15 Jan	309A/QA225	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Hwy 9 (Laos, RVN)	MARS
18 Jan	324/QA226	Hwy 160, 9E, 96A-D, 92F, 512 (Laos, RVN)	MARS
20 Jan	965/QA228		Lost <u>1/</u>
22 Jan	317T/QA230	Hwy 14X-Z, Highlands Corridors, A Lovi Aflld, Ta Bat Aflld, A Shau Aflld (Laos, RVN)	MARS
22 Jan	948/QA231	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Hwy 9, Khe Sanh Aflld (Laos, RVN)	MARS
23 Jan	967/QA232	Saigon area infiltration search areas (Cambodia, RVN)	MARS
23 Jan	950/QA233	Hwy 548A-C, 914A-B, 922B, Tchepone, A Shau Aflld (Laos, RVN)	MARS

*Mid-Air Recovery System
1/ Chute failure.

GIANT SCALE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
12 Jan	SA-026	Korea DMZ	100% cloud free
19 Jan	SA-027	Korea DMZ	95% cloud free

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24 January 1974
Tab D

OLYMPIC MEET

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
16 Jan	TA018	Cambodia	60% cloud free
19 Jan	TA019	Laos	Air Abort 30%

CHURCHDOOR

No activity.

CUBA

OLYMPIC FIRE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Results</u>
11 Jan	GA025	44.3% of land mass

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COMIREX-M-197
27 January 1974
Special Annex
Tab E



20 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Members and Consultants
SUBJECT : Special Annex to COMIREX-M-197

The attached Special Annex to COMIREX-M-197 covering the
24 January 1974 COMIREX meeting is forwarded for your review
and record.

[redacted signature box]

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Executive Secretary
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachment

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COMIREX M-187
27 January 1974
Special Annex
Tab E

Special Annex

Proposal for COMIREX Data Handling Coordination Group

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1. The Chairman referred to the DIA Member's memorandum requesting establishment of a COMIREX Data Handling Coordinating Group. A copy is attached at Tab E. The NSA Member believed the proposal would also involve the USIB Information Handling Committee (IHC). [redacted] agreed and noted that [redacted] Chairman of the IHC, is in attendance at today's meeting.

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2. [redacted] pointed out that DIA has an extensive effort under way on the Imagery Related Data Handling Systems (IRDHS)* and in the experimental transmittal of imagery**. Staffing has also been completed on a JCS paper regarding dissemination of [redacted] material. There are other independent efforts in the various intelligence agencies and departments underway to cope with the future [redacted] environment. [redacted] considered it important that COMIREX leadership be exercised now to coordinate the various data handling requirements along with existing and planned capabilities and their application to satisfy the collective requirement. He recommended immediate establishment of a COMIREX Data Handling Coordination Group to focus on this question over the next several months. The Chairman shared the DIA Member's concern but did not feel that a problem of this scope should be handled on an ad hoc basis. He proposed instead that several individuals available on a full-time basis be designated to work on behalf of COMIREX in this area and provide an initial report back to the Committee at an early date. One responsibility of that group would be to identify interfaces and to work in close coordination with the IHC to make certain that what is being done in the imagery field is tied in with other related areas and activities. Both ICRS and EXSUBCOM also would have direct interests in this undertaking. [redacted] paper is most timely and constructive and emphasizes addressing the total data cycle--from requirements processing through dissemination of imagery-derived information [redacted]

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*See Tab D to Special Annex to COMIREX-M-187, 16 August 1973.

**See Tab E to Special Annex to COMIREX-M-187, 16 August 1973.

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27 January 1974
Special Annex
Tab E

3. The Chairman asked members to forward to the Executive Secretary any comments or suggestions they might have on establishment of a COMIREX Data Handling Coordination Group. These will be taken into account in preparation of terms of reference for the Group*.

[redacted] Exercise--Status Report

4. [redacted] presented a briefing on the status of the [redacted] exercise conducted 1 - 24 September 1973**. Copies of briefing aids used were forwarded separately as Tab B to these Minutes [redacted] 28 January 1974).

5. During discussion following the briefing, [redacted] noted that a question had arisen as to whether analysts should be expected to define collection parameters or whether they should merely identify their information requirements and have others determine the necessary mode and resolution. [redacted] pointed out Army is wrestling with the problem of use of this advanced collection system in a variety of modes including for tactical force application. The Chairman noted that most requirements submitted for area coverage involved fairly small areas.

6. The Chairman thanked [redacted] for bringing the Committee up to date on this study which is among the most important COMIREX activities presently under way. [redacted] has been a most valuable exercise, surfacing many aspects that need to be brought up to a higher level of visibility and attention.

Applicability of [redacted] System to 1973 Middle East Crisis***

7. [redacted] inquired regarding the study being undertaken on this subject. [redacted] Chief of CIA's Special Study Group (SSG), reported that work on the period prior to the outbreak of hostilities is

*Subsequently issued as COMIREX-D-32.10/1.

**See COMIREX-M-196, Special Annex, paragraphs 1-2; COMIREX-M-189, Special Annex.

***See CX-11WG-M-6, paragraphs 5-10 [redacted]

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COMIREX-M-197

27 January 1974

Special Annex

Tab E

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nearly complete and the SSG is now focusing on the period from 6 October on. The simulations needed for the study have proven a more complex undertaking than originally anticipated. The results, however, should be available within the next few weeks.

Imagery Transmission Test - Building []/Pentagon

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8. [] asked whether results were available from the video transmission experiment between Building [] and the Pentagon, as described in an earlier briefing. * [] agreed to provide an update on the Wide-Band Image Data Relay Experiment at the next COMIREX meeting.

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Attachment

Tab E--DIA Memorandum to Chairman, COMIREX, re: Establishment of COMIREX "Data Handling Coordinating Group," 14 January 1974,

DIA []

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*See Tab E to Special Annex to COMIREX-M-187, 16 August 1973.

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Special Annex
Tab E

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

14 JAN 1974

DIA

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, COMIREX

SUBJECT: Establishment of COMIREX "Data Handling Coordinating Group"

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1. Despite the establishment of various intra-and interagency Working Groups and Task Teams, the imagery community continues to lack a mechanism for insuring that the handling of imagery related data "on the ground" will be accomplished in a manner which will maximize utility [Redacted]

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[Redacted] While there seems to be general agreement that improved data handling is required, and while several organizations are in various stages in the development of concepts and implementation plans related to imagery information handling, these efforts are progressing independently with little prospect that they will tie together into an effective data handling system capable of processing imagery requirements and disseminating imagery derived information in near-real-time.

NRO
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2. The current situation results from COMIREX's not addressing the imagery cycle as an information flow with the objective to provide the functional analyst information from which intelligence can be produced. COMIREX, and through its subcommittees, has identified the various tasks to be performed throughout the imagery cycle and established procedures and policies for the conduct of these tasks. But COMIREX has not adequately addressed how information flows between the various elements performing these tasks. The transmission of data has been left to the individual operatives involved, who singularly have been unable to influence the choice of mechanisms used to transfer data between community elements. Consequently, manual transfer methods continue to be extensively used. As a result, the "system" has not been optimized, either in terms of manpower utilization or responsiveness. Heretofore, neither consideration was of critical importance. However, recent manpower decisions [Redacted] will radically change this environment.

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3. Examples of independent efforts underway to cope with this new environment include DIA's Imagery Related Data Handling System (IRDHS) and NPIC's upgrading of it's capability to store, retrieve, and disseminate imagery derived information. While we have attempted to fully consider the developmental plans of COMIREX and NPIC, and the necessary interfaces involved, this effort has not always been reciprocal, and there is presently no adequate mechanism for authoritative

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exchange of requirements and information. DIA does not feel that the sum of individually arrived at solutions to this new environment will provide an adequate collective solution. However, DIA is also of the belief that it is not too late to reverse this trend towards individual solutions; however, forceful COMIREX leadership is considered to be essential. As a first step, DIA believes that COMIREX should immediately establish a "Data Handling Coordinating Group", composed of representatives from CIA, DIA NSA, NPIC, Army, Navy, Air Force, ICRS, and EXSUBCOM. State Department and the NRO would provide observers. The primary functions of the group would be to:

- a. Identify the communities' collective data handling requirements and the existing and planned capabilities.
- b. To influence the application of these capabilities to satisfy the collective requirements; and
- c. To identify to COMIREX and appropriate line organizations shortfalls between capabilities and requirements. We do not believe that this group would require a permanent staff nor a full time chairman. It will require representatives who are thoroughly familiar with each organizations automated support to the imagery cycle and who can influence the direction of that support on a day-to-day basis.

4. Timing of the establishment of this Group is critical since contractor provided concepts for the DIA Imagery Related Data Handling System are due to DIA the last week of February, 1974. We believe that significant benefits could accrue from community review and acceptance of these concepts and it is our desire that this review be accomplished by an authoritative instrumentality. No such organization exists today. If established rapidly enough, the COMIREX "Data Handling Coordinating Group" would be an appropriate forum for this review.

5. It is requested that this item be considered at the next regularly scheduled COMIREX meeting.

[Redacted Signature]

DIA Member, COMIREX

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28 January 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

SUBJECT : Preliminary Report on [Redacted] Exercise

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REFERENCE : COMIREX-M-197, 24 January 1974

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1. Copies of the briefing aids used by [Redacted] Chairman, COMIREX [Redacted] Working Group, in his briefing to COMIREX on 24 January 1974 are provided herewith for information and record. This package has been designated Tab B to COMIREX-M-197 and should be attached or cross-referenced to your copy of those minutes when they are issued.

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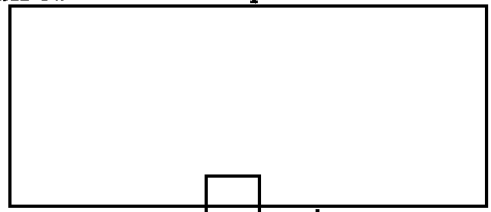


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Executive Secretary
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachment



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COMIREX-M-196
Special Annex
Limited Distribution

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13 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Members and Consultants

SUBJECT : Special Annex to COMIREX-M-196

The attached Special Annex to COMIREX-M-196 covering the 10 January 1974 COMIREX meeting is forwarded for your review and record.

[Redacted Signature]

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Executive Secretary

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachment

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COMIREX-M-196

10 January 1974

COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION
COMIREX-M-196
10 January 1974

Following is an index of the minutes of the 10 January 1974
COMIREX meeting:

Section I (Briefings)

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[Redacted]

Page 4

EXRAND Procurement Coordinating Team

Section II (Operations)

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[Redacted]

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Page 5

Aircraft and Drone Activities

Section III (Action Items)

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Middle East Review

Page 7

Indochina Review

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Page 7

Imaging Systems Mix Study

Page 8

T-KH Modification Guidelines--Status Report

Section IV (Other Business)

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Plans to Close Westover Processing Facility

Page 11

New Cameras in [Redacted] Aircraft

Page 11

Developments Affecting Film Base Reclamation

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COMIREX-M-196
10 January 1974

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Section V (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

None

Attachments

Tab A Procurement Coordinating Team

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Tab B

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Tab C Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity

Tab D Comments to COMIREX

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10 January 1974

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Section I (Briefings)

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EXRAND Procurement Coordinating Team

2. [redacted] Chairman of the EXRAND Procurement Coordinating Team, reported on tangible benefits and savings derived during FY 1973 from EXRAND activity facilitating (a) community joint procurement [redacted] and (b) the transfer and exchange of excess photographic exploitation equipment at no cost to the receiving agency [redacted]. Copies of the vugraphs used are attached at Tab A.*

3. [redacted] noted that NASA consistently has been the single largest recipient of excess equipment. Since more civilian agencies are beginning to take part in the exploitation and use of overhead imagery, he anticipated other civil agencies will be appearing on future recipient lists.

4. The Chairman felt this activity has been of considerable benefit to the community at large. The Procurement Coordinating Team again has done a fine job and deserves our thanks and congratulations. This activity is carried out with a minimum of overhead and produces maximum tangible concrete returns.

*Information provided by [redacted] was subsequently distributed as an attachment to COMIREX-D-33.2/2.

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COMIREX-M-196
10 January 1974

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Section II (Operations)

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1.

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Aircraft and Drone Activities

2. Reports on aircraft and drone activities during the period 13 December 1973 - 9 January 1974 are attached at Tab C.

Section III (Action Items)

Middle East Review

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1. The Chairman reported there have been no GIANT REACH missions since 10 December. The hoped-for update of the Middle East data base by a GIANT REACH mission [Redacted] did not materialize primarily due to weather.

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2. A [Redacted] report received late in December reported a high probability that hostilities would be resumed. This led to placing SR-71 aircraft on a 24-hour alert status. Community elements were canvassed to determine the role that GIANT REACH photography could play in illuminating the question of whether or not renewed hostilities were imminent. The view emerged that the imagery data base itself in terms of order of battle was already outdated by this time and that current photography could be helpful in confirming the size or scale of any preparations that might be taking place. It could not be counted on, however, to confirm that an attack was imminent. A decision was made to hold GIANT REACH in

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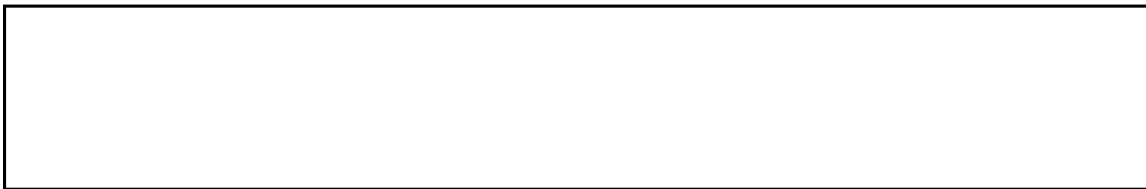
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readiness for follow-up photography in the event fighting did break out. The major factor affecting planning for GIANT REACH missions recently has been the political situation. The desire of analytical intelligence components to have the latest updated photography has been weighed against the sensitivity of having any overhead flights in the area at this particular time and the decision in each case has been to hold off on airborne reconnaissance. The 24-hour alert status for GIANT REACH now has been modified to 48 hours.

3. There has been a good understanding of what the requirements are in terms of areas and targets. There also has been considerable interaction among community elements on route planning to develop a consensus as to where a mission should fly if one is authorized. The Chairman felt community coordination has been excellent, but actual decision on whether or not to fly a mission at a given time has been a policy question, not solely an intelligence question.

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5. The Chairman referred to the November memorandum which called for GIANT REACH missions at about weekly intervals taking into account the satellite outlook at the time.* Assessments have regularly been going forward on the current need for coverage based on a review of various community components. While so far political factors have weighed against having reconnaissance activity in the area, [redacted] wanted to assure members that the review process and the question of active consideration of these flights has been a continuing one throughout the entire period. In answer to a query from the Acting Air Force member, [redacted] indicated ICRS will be the mechanism for consolidation and coordination of views in the community as to what the requirements for coverage are.

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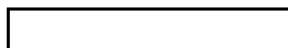
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*COMIREX-D-29.3/8, 23 November 1973; COMIREX-D-29.3/9, 6 December 1973.

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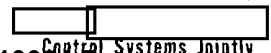


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10 January 1974

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Indochina Review

6. The Chairman, ICRS, noted there is continuing approval for GIANT SCALE overflights of North Vietnam.* Presently the program calls for one flight about every two weeks. ICRS yesterday queried community elements on additional special requirements for a mission to be flown about 15 January. The agreed requirements will then be forwarded through normal DIA and JRC channels to SAC. This process has been working quite well and the excellent coverage from the 17 December mission, as briefed earlier today, was at least partially the result of this close coordination.

Imaging Systems Mix Study

7. Although most members have some insight into this through their ICRS members, the Chairman wanted to review again on-going actions related to the systems mix study.** The Photo-Mix Study Working Group has identified a variety of actions needed for completion of the study in the May/June time frame. COMIREX will provide the requirements statements. A variety of requirements have been outlined as needed for the series of simulations to be undertaken. These are being worked through the ICRS mechanism for translation into requirements that will be useable for each particular simulation. In most cases the work going on in ICRS in support of pending COMIREX projects is quite adaptable and suitable for use in the Photo-Mix Study. For example, the support ICRS is providing the NRO for advance simulations [redacted] [redacted] software can, with minor variation and amplification, be re-formatted for the Photo-Mix Study. Similarly, work being done on the target classification system--the "problem set" activity under [redacted]-is also directly adaptable for the study. All work either directly or indirectly related to the Photo-Mix Study is being monitored very closely and an effort is being made to insure that such work is channeled in the most useful direction. There is a delicate balance in some cases between what can be done and what would be ideal, so it will be necessary to look carefully at what is planned to be certain it is reasonable.

*COMIREX-M-195, Section IV, paragraph 1.

**COMIREX-M-195, Special Annex.

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COMIREX-M-196
10 January 1974

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8. The Chairman also reported on the NRO's Imagery Resolution Assessment and Reporting Standards (IRARS) Task Force activity to develop standards for expressing resolution for different types of imagery. A program has been set up under [Redacted] of the NRO to obtain imagery [Redacted] and advanced system collection materials in a controlled context to allow a standardized evaluation of the static comparative information content. These studies promise to provide an improved body of current data and are moving along very well. [Redacted] asked the NRO Consultant to arrange a briefing on IRARS for a future meeting.

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9. There will be some areas where our knowledge will be advanced considerably by the IRARS study but there will be significant limitations as it applies to the mix study. These limitations will affect such things as the ability to obtain stereo imagery of certain types or the ability to have various aspect angles and obliquities.

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10. [Redacted] noted that ICRS faces a very tight deadline in completing the requirement package. There will be need for special meetings and considerable extra work over the next three weeks to provide the complete requirements in the late January - early February time frame.

T-KH Modification Guidelines--Status Report

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11. [Redacted] Chairman of the T-KH Modification Working Group, reported on completion of the first implementation phase of the new modification program.* On 22 December 1973 the Director of Central Intelligence issued the initial guidelines for release and use of designated T-KH materials outside the T-KH control system for current intelligence purposes, effective 1 January 1974.**

*COMIREX-M-194, Section III, paragraphs 7-11.

**USIB-D-46.2/29 [Redacted]

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12. Phase 2 guidelines, covering decompartmented use of [Redacted] materials for the broad range of intelligence production purposes, is currently in preparation and will be forwarded to USIB next week.* Phase 3 will address [Redacted] the obsolete satellite systems (KH-4, 5, [Redacted]). This will be ready for COMIREX review sometime in February. The target date for completion and issuance of the updated, comprehensive T-KH Control and Sanitization Manual (Phase 4) is 1 April.

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13. The Chairman anticipated and hoped that the participants in the Working Group would insure that as any problems arise in their own organizations and departments in working with these issuances, they be surfaced as an aid to continuing refinement of the initial guidelines into practical standard procedures for general use. It will be very important over the next several months to insure there is open and frequent exchange on this effort among all interested elements, particularly with regard to problems encountered by the field.

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14. [Redacted] noted that considerable care had been taken within DIA in the selection of appropriate officers for assignment to the Modification Working Group and its various task teams.** It was his understanding, however, that the Working Group had played only a limited role in structuring the 22 December initial guidelines.

15. The Executive Secretary pointed out that the time constraints involved for the opening phase and the complexity of developing, at the outset, implementation concepts for the entire overall modification program permitted little option but to proceed as we did. It should be noted, however, that in preparation of the Phase 1 document the various draft texts were reviewed in detail by the Modification Steering Group. In the subsequent phases the Working Group would indeed be the active forum for developing the pertinent basic documentation and draft guidelines for both Steering Group and COMIREX review.

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*Subsequently forwarded to the Board as USIB-D-46.2/30 (COMIREX-D-2.2/6), 18 January 1974, [Redacted] and issued by the Director of Central Intelligence under USIB-D-46.2/31, 1 February 1974, [Redacted]

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**COMIREX-D-2.2/4, 28 November 1973

[Redacted]

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16. [Redacted]

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17. [Redacted] reported the U.S. mission to [Redacted] have raised, with the Secretary of Defense, the problem of satellite imagery use in [Redacted] target materials. The Chairman believed this specific problem had already been solved. The Director of Central Intelligence yesterday signed authorization for the inclusion of sanitized KH-4 imagery in [Redacted] target materials. Guidelines under which this would be done routinely will be circulated within the Modification Working Group with the view toward including such provisions in the new manual.

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Section IV (Other Business)

Plans to Close Westover Processing Facility

1. The NRO Consultant reported that, as a result of the announcement of the closure of Westover Air Force Base, the decision has been made to phase out the NRO's film processing facility (Air Force Special Project Processing Facility/AFSPPF) there. Consequently the primary processing capability at Eastman Kodak will be tasked to accomplish the majority of the duplicate film processing currently performed at the AFSPPF. In addition, the capability of the 544th ARTW at Headquarters, Strategic Air Command (Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska) will be augmented to produce the remainder of the NRO satellite mission material. Activation of the capability of the 544th ARTW is estimated to take approximately two and one-half years to complete, by which time the NRO facility at Westover will be completely closed down.

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2. Based on the ensuing discussion, the Chairman proposed that COMIREX work through the Chairman, EXSUBCOM, and the member organizations to effect a review and appraisal of the impact of this action on the community. He asked the NRO Consultant to provide more complete data on this proposal which would outline the current plan so as to provide common understanding among community elements of what is involved. [redacted] indicated this could be done for the next COMIREX meeting.

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New Cameras in [redacted] Aircraft

3. [redacted] reported two new cameras being installed in [redacted] RF-104Gs. These new camera systems built by Fairchild are the KA-60D and the KA-94 with characteristics as listed below:

KA-60C	3" focal length pan	180° scan
KA-94	24" focal length pan	120° scan

The KA-60Cs are operational and are performing quite well. There have been some difficulties with the KA-94 but it is expected these will be corrected soon. The new cameras should deliver imagery of [redacted] ground resolution from an altitude of 40,000 feet.

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Developments Affecting Film Base Reclamation

4. [redacted] reported on pending changes--due to the energy crisis--in the thermoplastics industry, which manufactures the polyester resins from which all reconnaissance film is made, and their implications for the intelligence community. A summary of his comments is attached as Tab D.

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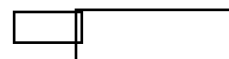
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Tab A

PROCUREMENT
COORDINATING TEAM

A-1



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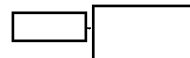
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Tab A

MEMBERSHIP

- EXRAND MEMBER/DESIGNATED REP
- CHAIRED BY AIR FORCE MEMBER

A-2



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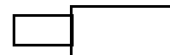
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Tab A

SAVINGS

- JOINT PROCUREMENT ACTIONS
- EXCESS EQUIPMENT TRANSFER

A-3

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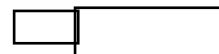
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Tab A

FUNCTIONS

- PROPOSED PURCHASE LIST
- NEW EQUIPMENT
- UNSATISFACTORY REPORTS
- TEST AND EVALUATION DATA
- REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT
- SOLE-SOURCE
- EXCESS EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION



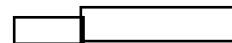
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Tab A

MISSION

- PROCUREMENT DATA INTERFACE
- DISSEMINATE PROCUREMENT DATA
- COORDINATE PROCUREMENT ACTIONS

A-5



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Aircraft and Drone Reconnaissance Activity
 13 December 1973 - 9 January 1974

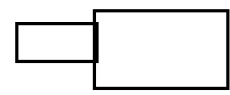
FAR EAST

BUFFALO HUNTER

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
13 Dec	967/QA185	JCS Corridor Areas, Cambodia, South Vietnam	MARS *
13 Dec	965V/QA186	Central Highlands Search (RVN)	MARS
15 Dec	965V/QA187	Hwy 9E-H, 92B-D, 234, 914 A&B, 925, 9110	MARS
15 Dec	305/QA188	Rt 8G, 23C, 23D, 23G, 231, 121A, 121B	MARS
19 Dec	956/QA191	Central Highlands Search	MARS
19 Dec	309A/QA192	Hwy 9, Khe San Sites (Laos, RVN)	MARS
21 Dec	967/QA196	JCS Corridor Areas, Cambodia & RVN	MARS
22 Dec	324/QA199	Hwy Seg 160, 9E, 96A-D, 92F, 512	MARS
22 Dec	932V/QA201	Laos Hwy Seg 23 I-P	MARS
23 Dec	957/QA202	Hwy Seg, Laos & RVN	MARS
23 Dec	739/QA203	Hwy Seg, Laos	MARS
26 Dec	967/QA204	JCS Corridor Areas, Cambodia & RVN	MARS
26 Dec	324/QA205	Hwy Seg 160, 9E, 96A-D, 92F, 512, JCS Corridor (Laos, RVN)	MARS
27 Dec	965/QA206	Hwy 9E-H, 92B-D, 234, 914 A&B, 925, 9110	MARS
27 Dec	948Y/QA208	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Rt 9C, 9D	MARS
28 Dec	309A/QA209	Hwy 9 Khe Sanh SAM Sites (Laos, RVN)	MARS
28 Dec	739/QA210	Hwy 8, 12, 23, 121, 123, 125, 911 (Laos)	MARS
2 Jan	966/QA211	JCS Corridors, Cambodia, RVN	MARS
3 Jan	312/QA213	Hwy Seg 923B, 922A, 548A & B, A Shan Valley Search (Laos)	MARS
3 Jan	935/QA214	JCS Corridor Areas, Laos & RVN	MARS
5 Jan	317A/QA215	Hwy Seg 14X-Z, Highland Corridors, A LVOI, TA BAT, A Shau Aflds	MARS
5 Jan	948/QA216	Khe Sanh SAM Sites, Rt 9C & D	MARS
8 Jan	958/QA217	Hwy Seg L13C & D, Q14AAA, 239E & F, JCS Areas (Laos & Cambodia)	MARS
8 Jan	965/QA218	Hwy 9E - H, 92B - D, 234, 914A & B, 925, 9110	MARS

*Mid-Air Recovery System

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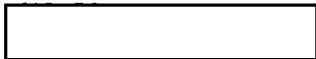
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Tab C

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GIANT SCALE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Results</u>
17 Dec	SB035	NVN Overflight, Laos	80% cloud free
19 Dec	SA023	Korea DMZ	10% cloud free
28 Dec	SA024	Korea DMZ	70% cloud free
31 Dec	SB036	NVN Overflight, Laos	75% cloud free
4 Jan	SA025	Korea DMZ & ROK Is	85% cloud free
8 Jan	SB037	Laos & RVN	50% cloud free

OLYMPIC MEET

18 Dec	TA016	Cambodia	94% cloud free
28 Dec	T034	Laos	90% cloud free
4 Jan	TA017	Laos, Cambodia, RVN	90% cloud free

CHURCHDOOR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Areas/Targets</u>	<u>Type of Mission</u>
14 Dec	C383C	North Central China Coast	Photo
18 Dec	C393C	Central and South China Coast	Photo
22 Dec	C413C	North China Coast	Photo
4 Jan	C024C	Taiwan Straits	Photo

SCOPE SCHIELD

5 Jan S014E Gulf of Tonkin

CUBA

OLYMPIC FIRE

No activity due to weather.



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COMMENTS TO COMIREX

by [redacted]

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10 January 1974

There is now evidence that some rather significant changes will take place in the thermoplastics industry which manufactures the polyester resins from which all of the reconnaissance film is made.

During the past year, EXRAND has been successful in coordinating an interim Community film disposition method to cause recovery of the silver content from used classified film collected from the Community, which is one of EXRAND's objectives. Some EXRAND representatives have been proponents of the chemical-type film disposition system to also save the film base for eventual processing and reuse by the plastics industry. We have in past years not been able to determine a market. Since about December 1973, large film manufacturing companies and smaller silver-scrap processor companies have suddenly seen the value of used polyester film base due to the shortage and increased costs of petroleum. Film base now has a value. Most of the used film base today is destroyed by incineration or used in land fill--silver ash or silver sludge is recovered for refining and the silver or its value is returned to government accounts.

Events are just now taking place which lead one to believe that film base should no longer be incinerated. There will likely be a shortage of new polyester film base for our reconnaissance vehicles and probably a marked increase in the cost of film and tape.

I believe these apparently emerging developments will affect the Intelligence Community and wish to note these developments at this time.

To refresh your memory on this matter, I refer you to a rather optimistic EXRAND Ad Hoc Study Team Secret report on film disposition of 6 December 1972 which was provided to all COMIREX members. This report was also published earlier in a T-KH version.

[redacted]
Executive Secretary, EXRAND

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[redacted] [redacted]

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