

JCI

1 February 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of Special Group Meeting, 1 February 1962

**PRESENT:** General Taylor, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Gilpatric and Mr. Helms

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1. Defense Peripheral Flights

The February schedule was noted. It was agreed that it will not be necessary in the future to ask the Group for specific approval for Arctic flights, nor for those employing U-2s. These will be included in the book of selected missions and any member will have an opportunity to register objection to any flight. The absence of objection will be considered as tacit approval.

It was noted that the missions in the presentation which involve staging through [redacted] cannot be mounted until approval has been obtained from [redacted]

Colonel Steakley reported in detail on the results of the VALERIE/ARCHER mission.

2. Monthly Schedule of Overflights

The CIA schedule was noted. It was pointed out that the Cuba missions are being stepped up from one flight a month to two; that while the North Viet-Nam operation shows only one sortie, this will actually be two during February since the planned mission for January has slipped because of weather; and that, although the schedule indicates two TACKLE missions, it is understood that the second one will be subject to specific consideration and approval by the Special Group.

Mr. Johnson said that he had now been briefed on the frequency of flights in the North Viet-Nam area and was satisfied that at present this poses no real problem.

3. Ecuador - [redacted]

This proposal was approved as presented.

4. Laos - [redacted]

This proposal was approved as presented. Mr. Helms noted that the piecemeal approach to approvals of this kind is clearly

NSC review(s) completed.

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5. Cuba

The Chairman read the Group his memorandum directed to higher authority, dated January 26, which summarizes progress up to that time.

The memorandum from General Lansdale, suggesting a different approach to the content of last week's minute on Cuba, was discussed and the Group compared the version suggested by him with the one circulated. The conclusion was that the minute should stand as prepared.

General Lansdale's report of February 1st on popular support for the OAS meeting was distributed. His covering memorandum of the same date was read to the Group.

6. Berlin Education Center

Mr. Hains referred to State cable from Berlin, 1394, of January 26, on the above subject. He said that Mr. McConn enthusiastically endorses the proposals in this message but feels that funds should come from overt sources.

Thomas A. Farrett

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