

~~TOP SECRET~~DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

BYE 3022-63

Copy 7

6 AUG 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Special Group

SUBJECT: Reconnaissance Requirements for the
Current Contingency in the Far East

1. The Sino-Soviet rift and the impact of the test-ban treaty negotiations raise the possibility that Communist China may react with military ventures against neighboring countries. Present activities in North Korea and along the Sino-Indian border substantiate these possibilities. Accordingly, COMOR has established requirements for current reconnaissance intelligence in all areas of the Far East which are considered potential areas of ChiCom activity (COMOR-D-25/43, dated 30 July 1963). This COMOR requirement was approved by the United States Intelligence Board on 31 July 1963. The COMOR recommends reconnaissance of target areas in the following order of priority with the understanding, however, that operations should take advantage of circumstances to acquire coverage whenever feasible.

- a. Sino-Indian Border
- b. South China area bordering North Viet Nam and Laos
- c. Laos
- d. North Viet Nam
- e. North Korea
- f. Manchuria and North China

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System~~TOP SECRET~~
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- g. Missile Test Range (China)
- h. Pao Tou (China)
- i. Peiping (China)

2. Attention is called to the fact that with the present dissipation of the monsoon season we are now entering the time of year where weather permits the most effective aerial reconnaissance in the Far East area.

3. In view of this new COMOR all-inclusive requirement extending from Laos in the south to North Korea and Manchuria in the north, and westward along the Sino-Indian Border, I am requesting a reaffirmation of old approvals and other such approvals necessary to accomplish this COMOR requirement. Past Special Group approvals could be considered to result in the following posture:

- a. Four missions against the Sino-Indian Border at such time as an operating base becomes available.
- b. A continuous bank of four missions to operate against the Mainland of China, to include Manchuria.
- c. Approval to operate as required against Laos north of the 17th parallel, and North Viet Nam.
- d. One mission against Laos south of the 17th parallel.

4. The above approvals, if reaffirmed by the Special Group, will meet the present COMOR requirement with the exception of North Korea.

5. Attached is a proposed flight track for coverage of North Korea for which approval of one mission is requested.


BROCKWAY McMILLAN
Director

National Reconnaissance Office

Attachment - 1
As noted above

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AD/OSA/JCLedford:ph (5 Aug 63)

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