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10 September 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary of Defense  
SUBJECT: Tactical Reconnaissance of Cuba

1. At an executive session of the Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance (COMOR) held on 8 September 1962, and at the request of the Defense Intelligence Agency representative, the need for conducting tactical reconnaissance of Cuba was discussed and the following conclusions reached.
2. The facility near Banes, Cuba (205850N/753815W) initially described by the National Photographic Interpretation Center as a possible surface-to-air missile site needs additional coverage. It is considered by the COMOR that at this time this specific objective is by itself the highest priority for satisfaction by photo reconnaissance means.
3. In order to establish the exact function and the operational characteristics of this facility, it is the conclusion of COMOR that this target will almost certainly in the near future require photography of a larger scale than can be acquired by the U-2.
4. It is recommended that you initiate the necessary action (including Special Group approval) to provide for the employment, when directed by higher authority, of tactical-type reconnaissance against Banes or other targets as are identified in COMOR-D-24/15, which was made available to DIA on 1 September 1962.

Marshall S. Carter  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director

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