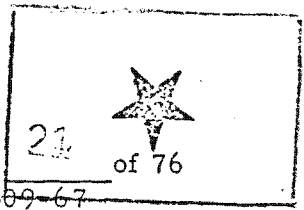


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21 June 1967
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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Overseas Handling, Processing and Reporting on Selected Nationally Programmed Photographic Reconnaissance Missions

REFERENCES: a. USIB-D-41.11/7 (COMOR-D-36/7), 3 May 1967, Limited Distribution
b. DCID No. 1/13

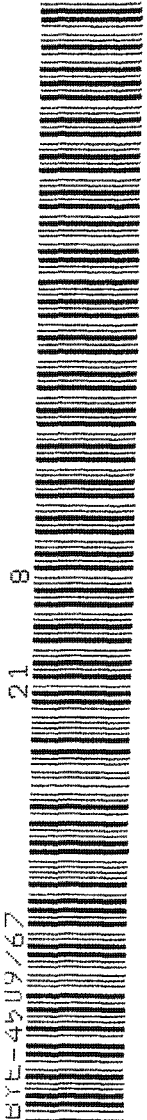
1. The United States Intelligence Board (USIB), including the Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) for this matter, approved as of 20 June 1967 the following actions after consideration of reference a.:

- a. Approved the attached statement on "Policy and Procedures for Overseas Handling, Processing and Reporting on Selected Nationally Programmed Photographic Reconnaissance Missions (Excluding Satellite Reconnaissance)".
- b. Concurred that Yokota be designated an Overseas Processing and Interpretation Center (OPIC-A) for the processing and reporting of the photographic results of selected nationally programmed reconnaissance missions in the Far East as assigned and certified after technical review by NRO.
- c. Concurred that the USAFE facility (Wiesbaden) be designated OPIC-E for the European theater, its certification to await a technical review by NRO.

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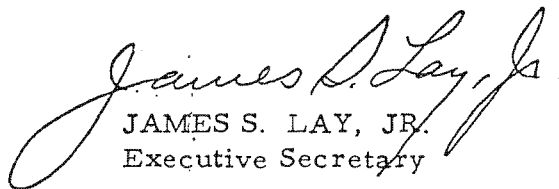
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d. Concurred that the NRO give consideration to readjustment in the present arrangements for processing of Far Eastern reconnaissance missions looking toward the utilization of Yokota whenever this is advantageous, and that at the institution of any new program the use of Yokota be given prime consideration.

e. Directed that the Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX), in consultation with reconnaissance management authorities, continually review and update policies and procedures of mutual concern relating to the effective interface of overseas operational, processing, exploitation, and reporting activities involving OPICs. This review should include comments and recommendations concerning the adequacy of the OPIC program.

2. Accordingly, the above USIB-approved actions are circulated for the information and guidance of all concerned, and for appropriate implementation by the Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX), the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), and other departments and agencies designated in the attachment hereto.


JAMES S. LAY, JR.
Executive Secretary

Attachment

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Policy and Procedures for Overseas Handling,
Processing and Reporting on Selected Nationally
Programmed Photographic Reconnaissance Missions
(Excluding Satellite Reconnaissance)

1. PURPOSE: To establish policies and procedures for the overseas handling, processing, and reporting on selected nationally programmed photographic reconnaissance missions. (DEFINITION: Nationally programmed photographic reconnaissance missions are those conducted by the (S) National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) or other agencies in response to United States Intelligence Board (USIB) requirements.)

2. CANCELLATION: Upon implementation of these policies and procedures the 1957 agreement governing the European Photographic Interpretation Center (URPIC) operations is null and void.

3. GENERAL: In order to provide for the most expeditious processing and reporting of nationally programmed photographic reconnaissance missions, two fixed photographic processing and reporting facilities, one in the European theater and one in the Pacific theater, have been designated. Other existing processing and reporting facilities will be used to meet United States intelligence needs consistent with operational considerations.

The determination of assignment of a nationally programmed task for these field units will be the subject of consultation between the USIB and the NRO and is subject to the approval of each. When field processing and read-out are directed, these centers will be responsible, primarily, for processing to meet (S) NRO standards and expeditious reporting in response to requirements of the USIB and, additionally, requirements of the respective parent Unified Command.

4. FACILITIES: In order to provide the required facilities and personnel, the Department of Defense (DoD) has designated as Overseas Processing and Interpretation Centers (OPIC), the following:

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a. Location

(1) Overseas Processing and Interpretation Center--
Asia (OPIC-A): Manned and operated by the 67th Reconnaissance
Technical Squadron (67RTS) at Yokota, Japan.

(2) Overseas Processing and Interpretation Center--Europe
(OPIC-E): Manned and operated by the 497th Reconnaissance
Technical Squadron (497RTS) and 749th Support Group at
Wiesbaden, West Germany.

(3) Such other facilities as may, on an interim basis, be
required by the ~~(S)~~ NRO to support the ~~(TS)~~ National Reconnaissance
Program.

b. Requirements: To meet both theater and national intelligence
needs, each OPIC should provide for the following:

- (1) Secure facility
- (2) Quality processing
- (3) Volume production of original negatives and
duplicates
- (4) Secure communications
- (5) Sufficient number of properly trained exploitation
personnel
- (6) Intelligence data handling system

5. MISSION: It shall be the mission of the OPIC's to process, reproduce, and
report on such reconnaissance missions as assigned. In fulfilling this
mission the following tasks will be accomplished:

a. ~~(S)~~ National Reconnaissance Office (NRO):

- (1) Certify that designated OPIC's are operational.

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(2) Assign processing responsibilities to specific OPIC's (reporting should be accomplished at the processing site for reason of speed).

(3) On a priority basis provide for the shipment of a duplicate positive and mission track of all nationally programmed reconnaissance missions from the OPIC's to the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC).

(4) Provide designated OPIC timely mission alerting information as required.

(5) Provide mission track to the designated OPIC as soon as practicable, commensurate with mission security.

(6) Provide OPIC's technological assistance and quality standards for photographic processing.

(7) Receive complaints from consumers and initiate remedial action if and as required.

(8) Provide OPIC's with emergency procurement and shipment of photographic processing equipment and supplies.

(9) Provide emergency funding to support OPIC operations.

(10) Provide basic guidance on national plans (e. g., anticipated sorties rates, emergence of new capabilities, etc.) which will affect the accomplishment of OPIC missions.

b. Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX)

(1) On behalf of USIB, advise the ~~(S)~~ NRO as to the degree of urgency on processing and reporting of each mission.

(2) Provide each OPIC with current listings of established USIB (COMIREX) reconnaissance requirements.

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(3) Provide ~~(S)~~ NRO with a priority schedule of the community's needs for duplication of film.

c. ~~(S)~~ National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC):

(1) Provide each OPIC background data on COMIREX target objectives and support to enhance the maintenance of an OPIC intelligence library, in response to arrangements made with NPIC by the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) on behalf of the OPIC.

(2) Provide each OPIC, on request, photographic interpretation assistance and services, as appropriate, for the reporting of COMIREX target objectives.

d. Department of Defense (DoD):

(1) Unified and Specified Commands:

(a) Insure adequate facilities, personnel, equipment, and supplies for processing are provided the OPIC's in accordance with the standards established by the ~~(S)~~ NRO.

(b) Insure adequate facilities, personnel, equipment, and supplies for photographic exploitation are provided the OPIC's in accordance with standards established by the DoD.

(c) Insure implementation of instructions and tasks as established by the (S) NRO, and, as appropriate, by the USIB.

(2) Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA):

(a) Act as the executive agent for ~~(S)~~ NRO, COMIREX, and NPIC in their contacts with the OPIC's, through Unified and Specified Commands.

(b) Receive complaints from consumers regarding Photo Interpretation, and initiate remedial action when and if required.

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- (3) The Military Departments:
- (a) Provide personnel, facilities, and equipment as required to support the OPIC's.
 - (b) Provide and maintain secure communications - facilities responsive to the need for prompt reporting.
- (4) Overseas Processing and Interpretation Centers (OPIC):
- (a) Maintain required security of their designated operating areas.
 - (b) Procure and maintain their processing equipment and supplies in accordance with the standards established by ~~(S)~~ NRO.
 - (c) Acquire and maintain on board adequately cleared and appropriately qualified personnel required for sustained operations.
 - (d) Acquire and maintain an intelligence reference library to enhance the timeliness and accuracy of reporting.
 - (e) Process original negatives of assigned missions.
 - (f) Reproduce and ship copies as directed.
 - (g) Prepare Immediate Photographic Interpretation Report and transmit cable to Theater and ZI recipients under identical priority.

6. FUNDING:

a. Overseas Processing and Interpretation Centers operated by the U. S. Air Force will be funded through Air Force channels. USAF in conjunction with ~~(S)~~ NRO will insure that sufficient funds are budgeted annually to cover the anticipated cost of National Program support. As in the past, extraordinary costs, beyond that for which funds have been budgeted, and emergency procurement support will continue to be furnished by the ~~(S)~~ NRO.

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b. Overseas Processing and Interpretation Centers operated by the U. S. Navy will be provided direct material support by the ~~(S)~~ NRO on an as required basis.

7. COMMUNICATIONS: All communications bearing on nationally controlled operations will be handled via SSO channels, except in those cases where authorization has been received from the ~~(S)~~ NRO.

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