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1 AUGUST 2015

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Comor General file

COMOR-D-65/1

11 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

SUBJECT: Interim COMOR Guidance Re Satellite
SIGINT Target Objectives and R&D Needs

The COMOR Working Group submits the attached paper on the above subject for approval and forwarding to the NRO. It will be considered at the meeting of 14 March.

James Q. Reber
James Q. Reber
Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

Attachment

Draft memo for NRO

Copies 2, 3	State TCO
4	DIA (Col. Ainsworth)
5, 6, 7, 8	DIA TCO
9	OACSI TCO
10, 11	ONI TCO
12, 13	AFNIN TCO
14, 15	NSA TCO
16, 17	NRO TCO

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COMOR-D-65/1

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, NRO Staff

SUBJECT: Interim COMOR Guidance Re Satellite
SIGINT Target Objectives and R&D Needs

1. As no doubt your representative on COMOR, Colonel Duncan, may have advised you, COMOR is in the process of revising and updating the United States Intelligence Board statement of requirements for satellite collection (USIB-D-33.6/8, 5 July 1960).

2. Meanwhile, the COMOR's Target Working Group has developed a procedure for providing detailed target guidance to the collector and is well along in the actual preparation of the card file which will serve both as a means of transmitting specific guidance to the collector and to those responsible for processing the materials. As new information is received, these cards will be updated and new cards issued. The card deck, which is attached at Tab A is for your information and use as appropriate, has already been made available to the participating agencies in COMOR.

3. In the course of its work as indicated above and taking into account the satellite SIGINT requirements paper which is preliminarily considered satisfactory in COMOR, the Target Working Group has evolved suggestions which the NRO may well find useful in its ongoing management of current Satellite SIGINT packages. These suggestions have been reviewed by COMOR and the Committee feels that they should be forwarded to you as useful feedback from the consumer. It is surmised that, for the most part, these suggestions would involve modifications at small cost. COMOR would appreciate your comments both on the card file and the suggestions in Tab B.

Attachment:

1. Tab A. (To be distributed individually to the members.)
2. Tab B.

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Tab B

COMOR-D-65/1

Comment on Currently Planned Missions for Satellite SIGINT
Collection

1. The current schedule adheres quite closely to the priorities, concepts, and periodicity of coverage outlined in the attachments. However, the following additional specific comments are applicable.

a. The desired periodicity of General Search and ROB obviously cannot be entirely met. However, the distribution of DYNO and [REDACTED] payloads versus Directed Coverage is considered to be adequately balanced.

b. The allocation of frequency bands for ROB' [REDACTED] are generally in accordance with the established priority objectives. However, further emphasis should be given to objectives in the frequency spectrums of 650 - 800 mcs and 4900 - 5100 mcs.

c. No information was available on the frequency bands assigned to General Search [REDACTED]. However, the frequencies assigned to [REDACTED] do not provide for possible intercept of the [REDACTED] suspected ABM associated radar listed as Entity Serial (B-13) in the card file attached. We recommend that frequency spectrum be covered. Additionally, in view of the malfunctioning of [REDACTED] those frequencies of primary interest assigned thereto should be considered for follow-up by one of the scheduled General Search missions. Specific determination of frequencies to be assigned should await further evaluation of [REDACTED] (including the impact of recently developed procedures to reduce intermodulation) and the production of additional intelligence.

d. The [REDACTED] of missions appears to be overemphasized, inasmuch as no current requirement exists for such stringent ROB accuracy location. We assume, therefore, that the [REDACTED] is mainly

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for R&D test purposes, although as noted in para b above, the frequency spectrum of 4900 - 5100 mcs has not been adequately programmed under the ROB concept [REDACTED]. It is recommended that if the initial [REDACTED] is successful in all its objectives, consideration be given to reducing further missions of this type and transferring the spectrum coverage to an ROB package such as [REDACTED].

e. It is recommended that a RED VINO mission be programmed if at all possible because (1) RED VINO represents the second highest COMINT priority requirement, (2) no successful results have been produced thus far, and (3) one remaining package exists for which no booster is assigned.

f. The highest priority COMINT signal is the [REDACTED] which is suspected to be a major command link among the Soviet Rocket Forces. The technical problems associated with obtaining full bandwidth coverage are formidable and will require considerable R/D. However, it might be possible to launch some packages during the next year's programmed schedule if other missions such as [REDACTED] were reduced.

g. It is believed that the [REDACTED] payloads are justified by the assignment of ELINT priority one to the [REDACTED] objectives. However, the results of the initial launches should be carefully analyzed with possible consequent recommendation that phase two (location emphasis) then be considered.

h. Mission 7209, designed for collection of [REDACTED] and Soviet LRAF radio telephone represent COMINT priorities which are relatively low. However, the development of a capability to profitably handle signals of these types represents a long range potential of some promise. It is therefore recommended that the package be launched when possible.

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i. If TAKI - 3 results fail to satisfy existing requirements for TALL KING location and lobe structure information, additional coverage will be required.

j. The present program does not provide adequate Directed Coverage of the ABM guidance signals. It is estimated that their signals will fall within the [redacted] frequency range, most likely in the S-Band region. Because the ABM guidance signals are likely to be very weak in comparison to the normal S-Band signal environment, special R&D efforts will be required and a [redacted] vehicle such as that scheduled for subsequent [redacted] launches is recommended. (Para G above applies).

2. Other signals of relatively high priority for Directed Coverage are considered to require R/D of a magnitude such that launches of payloads during the period under question are not feasible. They are therefore not considered for the purpose of this interim guidance.

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Copy	1	DCI TCO
	18	DCI TCO for USIB/S
	19, 20	Asst/OPS(NPIC)
	21	C/PSD(NPIC)
	22	C/PID(NPIC)
	23	C/CSD(NPIC)
	24	LS/PID(NPIC)
	25	TSO CIA
	26	DDI TCO
	27, 28	OSI TCO
	29	OCI TCO
	30	ORR TCO
	31	DDP TCO
	32	DDR TCO
	33	AD/OSA
	34	OD/OSA
	35	Intel/OSA
	36	SO/OSA
	37-39	SA/DDR

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