

(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF

November 18, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PACKARD  
MR. HELMS  
DR. DuBRIDGE

SUBJECT: Preparation for ExCom Meeting of November 25, 1969

The NRO has forwarded to you the regular financial report and issue sheets for the November 25 meeting.

To aid the ExCom in making decisions on the program priorities and to establish overall funding levels, I believe that this more detailed report will be useful. Similar reports will be submitted in the future as necessary.

Since the August 15 ExCom meeting, several severe budget restrictions have been imposed within the Department of Defense generally, notably in connection with the 703 exercise. I do not believe that the NRP, important as it is, can or should escape the serious scrutiny which all defense-related programs are now receiving. The subject/issue papers which you have already received are drawn up in such a way that the ExCom can readily establish a program at any of the levels [REDACTED]

To improve the ability of the NRO to carry out its job of developing and managing systems which will fulfill the intelligence needs of the government within its area of assigned responsibility, we have established an Analysis Group within the staff of our [REDACTED]. This group will conduct analyses of proposed new systems, the relative efficiency of ongoing systems in fulfilling required commitments, and will make recommendations with respect to programming. Its work will be augmented by ad hoc efforts or studies using outside consultants.

Declassified and Released by the NRO

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997



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PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

We feel strongly the need for this type of dedicated analytical capability. Of course our office will continue working closely with the President's Science Advisor's Panel on NRP Matters.

Comments on how to make this report more useful will be appreciated.

*John L. McLucas*  
John L. McLucas

Attachment

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CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	1
Status Report on the FY 1970 Program	2
a. Highlights of the Operational Program	2
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
CORONA	3
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
b. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
c. [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Introduction:

This document includes a status report of the National Reconnaissance Program as of November 1, 1969. It presents some of the highlights of our collection activity, together with the status of major developments and our current fiscal situation.

This report also discusses the FY 1971 budget as it was presented on August 15, 1969 and as we will present it on November 25. The August 15 submission totalled about [REDACTED]

There have been indications that it may be necessary to limit our FY 1971 budget to less than [REDACTED]. The report, therefore, presents a set of candidate program adjustments which can accommodate this reduction.

The DNRO recommends for FY 1971 a program which can be accomplished within a budget of [REDACTED]. This represents, we believe, the best possible response to the collection needs expressed by the USIB and to the ExCom guidance. Should we decide, at a later date, to accelerate the effort on any program affected by the reductions, we must reexamine the issues and adjust the funding accordingly.

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[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CORONA

Launch Schedule

FY 1970							FY 1971												
N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
1			1			1		1				1	1		1			1	

The first of two CORONA missions flown since July 1 experienced a failure of the forward-looking camera; however, monoscopic photography was obtained. The second mission was quite successful and emphasized coverage of Soviet IRBM/MRBM complexes. Fifty SS-11 sites at the Pervomaysk and Derazhnya IRBM/MRBM complexes were identified. I am concerned that our present targeting procedures,

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TABLE I

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED TABLE CONTENTS]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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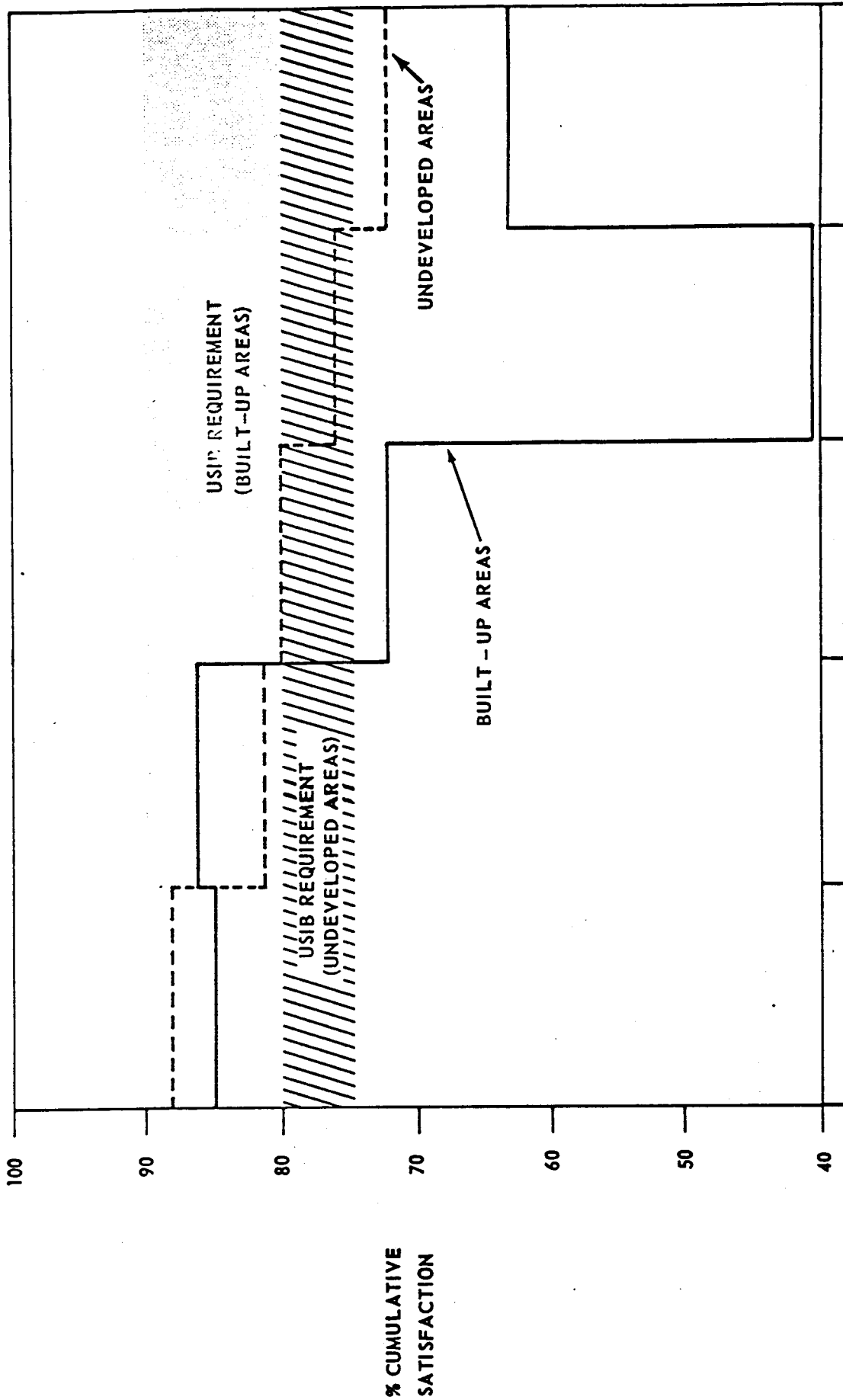
coupled with traditionally poor weather, caused us to forego coverage of these sites for over a year. During that time a major upgrading of IRBM complexes to accommodate ICBMs and the deployment of a HEN HOUSE radar near Sevastopol were undetected. We are working with the appropriate USIB committees to improve these target selection procedures.

Our percentage of satisfaction of the cumulative search requirements has declined over the past six months for several reasons. First, we experienced an on-orbit camera failure on the March CORONA mission. In May, USIB directed a CORONA orbit which would concentrate our coverage on 14 ICBM complexes for the May mission. I am confident that we can substantially increase this percentage over the period of the next three CORONA missions. A summary of search requirement satisfaction is shown in Table II.

[REDACTED]



TABLE II  
CY 1969 CORONA MISSION SUMMARY



# CORONA — SEARCH/SURVEILLANCE PHOTO SYSTEM KH-4

## SYSTEM ELEMENTS

THORAD/AGENA BOOSTER

AGENA SPACECRAFT

2 ITEK PAN CAMERA

1 FAIRCHILD TERRAIN CAMERA

2 FAIRCHILD STELLAR CAMERAS

4 ITEK HORIZON CAMERAS

2 RECOVERY VEHICLES

## PAYLOAD DATA

OPTICS — F-3.5, 24 in fl LENS

FILM — 31,500 ft x 70 mm

FRAME SIZE — 7.4 x 119 mm

RESOLUTION — 6 - 10 ft

COVERAGE — 7 million sq nm/mission

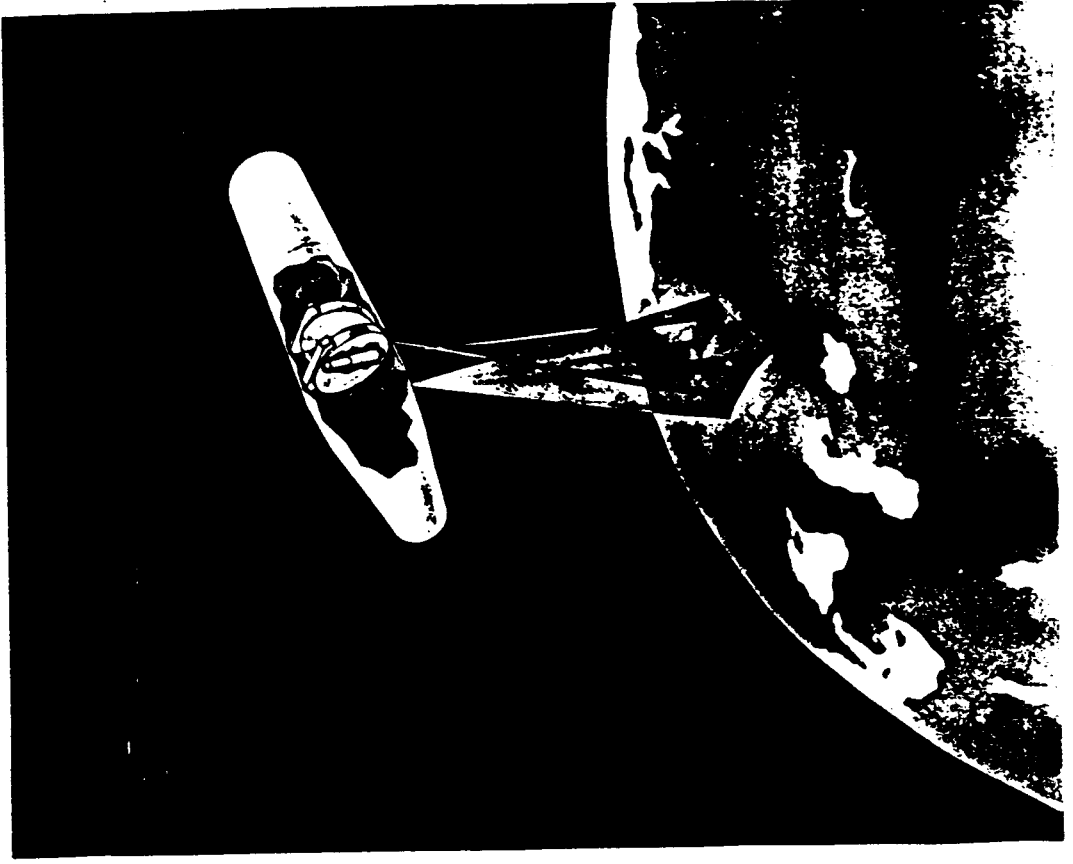
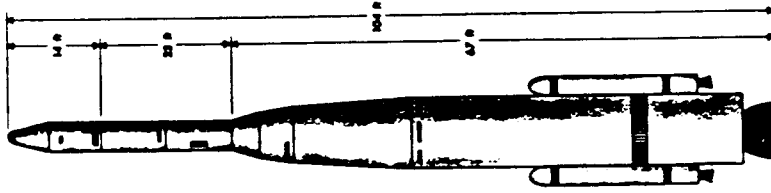
## ORBITAL PARAMETERS

INCLINATIONS — 60 - 110 deg

AVERAGE PERIGEE — 100 nm

AVERAGE APOGEE — 150 nm

LIFETIME — ~ 18 days



**\*\*\*NOTICE OF REMOVED PAGES\*\*\***

**Pages 11 through 35 are not provided because their full text does not contain CORONA, ARGON, LANYARD programmatic information.**