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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Programming of CORONA Shots

REFERENCE : Minutes of Special Group Meeting Held
6 October 1961, Para. 2 [Redacted]

1. The COMOR has advised that Soviet Russia is still the highest priority area for CORONA coverage and has further advised that coverage of China is desired only if it can be obtained at no cost to the primary objective.

2. A program tape for each mission is submitted twenty-one days prior to the scheduled firing. Each mission is over-programmed by approximately 150 per cent and the over-programming includes passes over China. If it were necessary to recover the vehicle after only two days of operation, these passes would be taken in order to use up the film payload. On a three or four day operation, virtually all of the film would be expended over the Soviet Union.

3. Once again, it should be noted that CORONA coverage of the South China border area will not provide the tactical information needed to satisfy the COMOR requirement.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

Signature recommended:

[Redacted Signature]

Acting Chief, DPD

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