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CORONA/LANYARD [redacted]



[redacted]
11 May 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance
SUBJECT: Requirement for Refinement of Timing for
Satellite Reconnaissance of Tyura Tam

For the information and reference of the members, there is attached a memorandum from the Chairman, COMOR to the Director, National Reconnaissance Office on the above subject and in pursuance of the action of COMOR at its meeting on 7 May, [redacted] paragraph 6.

James Q. Reber
James Q. Reber
Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office
SUBJECT: Requirement for Refinement of Timing
for Satellite Reconnaissance of Tyura Tam

1. The Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance has considered a proposal that satellite reconnaissance missions be so scheduled as to permit the acquisition of photography over Tyura Tam during the preparations for a major activity such as a lunar probe or launch of a man into space. To be most effective the photo reconnaissance satellite should either pass over Tyura Tam two hours before launch or while the vehicle is en route to the pad. The following most probable dates and times for the launching of Soviet lunar probes of 1963 are based on the following considerations:

a. The dates have been chosen on the basis of the phase of the moon--the three launches which have occurred in 1963 have been such as to yield almost the same illumination of the moon upon arrival. Since the April launching was one day early on this basis, the uncertainty in the dates is probably plus or minus one or two days.

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b. On any one day, however, the launch time is correct to within a few minutes, being constrained by the mechanics of Soviet practice and the flight path.

- 01 Jun/ 0743Z
- 01 Jul/0740Z
- 30 Jul/ 0709Z
- 29 Aug/ 0744Z
- 27 Sept/0729Z
- 27 Oct/0817Z
- 25 Nov/0804Z
- 25 Dec/0905Z

It should be noted that all these times lie between 11:22 and 13:18 Tyura Tam local sun time. Subject to later program developments, the dates appear firm. * (The above time predictions are classified SECRET.)

2. COMOR requests that NRO take cognizance of the LUNIK launching schedules noted in paragraph 1b above in selecting a launch

* If time of day is desired for days off optimum, see [redacted] project Study No. [redacted]

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time for LANYARD and [REDACTED] without detriment, however, to the targets already submitted on the chance that, with slight change, accommodation would be possible. It is possible that the second package in the CORONA-J might be activated on short notice and, while not improving the resolution of CORONA-M, might be in time to catch a major activity at Tyura Tam and thereby procure some dividend information.

3. With regard to the possibility of observing preparation for a manned space vehicle activity, COMOR has requested OSI/CIA to keep NRO advised as to the movement of SIBIRs. Launchings normally occur within a couple of days of the SIBIR's arriving on station.

James Q. Reber
 James Q. Reber
 Chairman
 Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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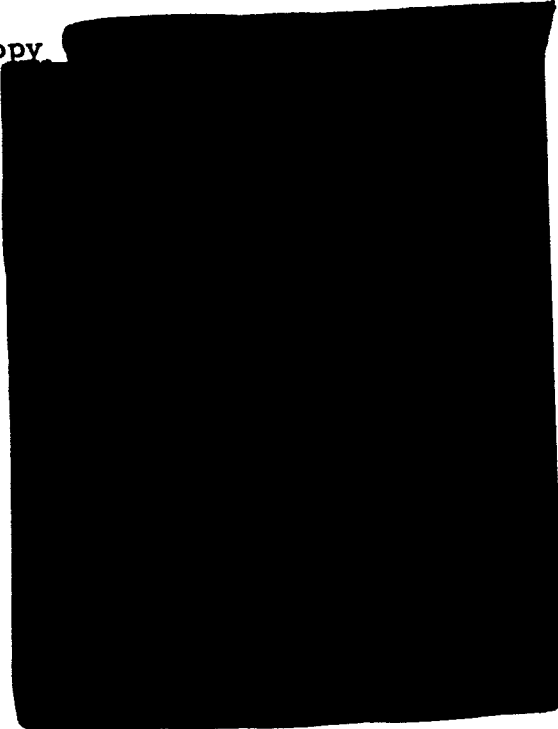
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