

SAIS/OSP
[Redacted]

~~TOP SECRET~~
CORONA



9 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Projects

SUBJECT : CIA Evaluation of Bi-Spectral
Photography from KH 4-B Mission
1103

1. Mission 1103 is the first attempt to obtain a relatively large amount of Bi-Spectral (Bi-Color) photography of intelligence targets in denied areas. The Bi-Color requirement for Mission 1103 was generated principally against targets in the nuclear energy field and includes US domestic targets for control purposes as well as Soviet and Chinese AE facilities. Because the Bi-spectral mode will be employed throughout each of the passes involving AE targets many additional targets will also be photographed in this mode.

2. A comprehensive evaluation of the utility of Bi-Color against AE targets will be performed in following up the initial requirement. I am concerned, however, that the evaluation of Bi-Color in relation to other intelligence targets may not be as systematically handled as is desirable for future planning purposes.

3. I propose that a coordinated Agency-wide evaluation of the Bi-Color portions of Mission 1103 be made and that a report be prepared for circulation within the Agency and subsequently to the Community as a whole. The focus of such an evaluation should be on the incremental information judged to have been gained through Bi-Color in comparison with normal black and white. I propose that the scheduling, consolidation, and coordination of such a report be handled by the Regional Analysis Division, OSR (SR/RA) along the

Copy [Redacted]
~~HANDLE VIA~~
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

~~TOP SECRET~~
CORONA

Declassified and Released by the NRO
In Accordance with E. O. 12958
on NOV 26 1997

lines and procedures used routinely in the preparation of the Agency-wide substantive assessments which are produced after each mission.

4. Working closely with the various production components and with OSP, SR/RA will examine the general mission Bi-Color coverage and prepare a listing of targets and categories covered for which the Bi-Color aspect appears germane. OSP is arranging for the preparation and delivery to NPIC of mission materials processed for viewing in Bi-Color. (OSI/NED only)
OSP will provide a 30 minute briefing for analysts on the Bi-Color technique, orthoprints, use of the ARES viewing device, and the Bi-Color materials delivery plan. The briefing schedule will be arranged between OSP and SR/RA. SR/RA will arrange a schedule of review and use of the viewing equipment, the preparation of joint analyst-PI evaluations and will integrate the information into a draft report. The draft report will be circulated to the various components for detailed review, coordination, and consolidation before being issued in final form.

5. I recommend that the initial Bi-Color evaluation of Mission 1103 be issued in the form of a "preliminary assessment" by 15 June 1968. At that time the need for additional and more definitive evaluation can be determined.

[REDACTED]

CIA Member COMIREX

Identical memos sent to:

[REDACTED]