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·1. CHAIRMAN, COMIREX, HAS EVALUATED THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE PERIGEE ALTITUDE OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR REF MISSION. ON BALANCE, AND AFTER CONSIDERATION OF ALL SIGNIFICANT FACTORS, IT IS RECOMMENDED THE NRO SELECT A PERIGEE ALTITUDE IN THE 85-90 NM RANGE. THIS WILL: IMPROVE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF THE EN ASCENDING/DESCENDING PHOTOGRAPHY; ALLOW CONSIDERATION OF ASCENDING COLLECTION FOR INTELLIGENCE PROBLEMS OTHER THAN THE ICBM SEARCH PROBLEM AND INCREASE THE PROBABILITY OF CLOUD-FREE PHOTOGRAPHY OF COMIREX PRIORITY OBJECTIVES.

eclassified and Released by the NRO

Accordance with E. O. 12958	COORDINATING OFFICERS] ₍₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌₌
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2. THIS OFFICE IS AWARE THE REDUCED PERIGEE ALTITUDE
MAY RESULT IN SOME REDUCTION IN THE OVERALL QUANTITY OF
IMAGERY OBTAINED AGAINST THE SEARCH REQUIREMENTS HOWEVER
THE OTHER EXPECTED INTELLIGENCE BENEFITS ARE JUDGED # TO
OVERRIDE THIS FACTOR.

END OF MESSAGE

