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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF

November 10, 1969



MEMORANDUM FOR

SUBJECT: West Coast Imagery Collection Exploitation Orientation Trip

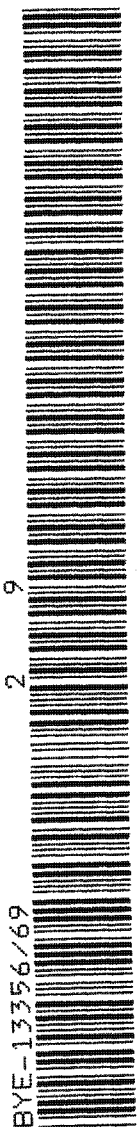
As you may be aware, we have most recently experienced a number of technical difficulties in the operation of our photographic and SIGINT satellite systems. Some are attributable to malfunctions in vehicle subsystems, others have been caused by problems inherent in the commanding, tracking and control network supporting their operation.

These difficulties have necessitated the dedicated, full time involvement of our total program force. Our concern over these crucial problems and the urgent need for the services of all available personnel in resolving them has caused us to virtually eliminate all but essential visits to our West Coast facilities.

While we understand the importance of orientations for responsible individuals in your organization, we trust you will recognize the necessity for eliminating this type activity over the period of the next several months, in order that we may devote our complete attention to correcting the problems we are experiencing.

We will be pleased to reconsider your request once we are able to relax our emphasis on these essential corrective measures. In the interim, I would suggest that any specific questions you may have concerning the conduct of operations at our West Coast facilities be addressed to me or my Staff, who I feel can readily and effectively respond to your needs.

LEW ALLEN, JR.
Brigadier General, USAF
Director



BYE-13356/69

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911-10-004



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

5 NOV 1969



MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE STAFF

SUBJECT: West Coast Imagery Collection/Exploitation Orientation Trip

Attached is a request for a follow-up orientation visit by certain key DIAAP and DIACO officials responsible for varied DIA aspects of the requirements, collection and exploitation of products furnished by the NRP. Request your favorable consideration and earliest response so that appropriate actions can be taken.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:



1 Enclosure
DIACS Memo dtd 4 Nov 1969,
subject as above, BYE-
78450-69, 2 pages (TSCW)

Colonel, USAF
Chief, Special Activities Office

BYE-78456/69

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GROUP 1
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BYE-78456-69

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911-05-010

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIAXX

DATE: 4 NOV 1969

FROM : DIACS

SUBJECT: West Coast Imagery Collection/Exploitation Orientation Trip

1. During the period 20-24 October 1969, the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) sponsored an orientation trip by the COMIREX Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee (ICRS) to visit certain key sensitive production, control and launch facilities in California involved with the national-level satellite and manned-reconnaissance programs.

2. It is requested that DIAXX arrange to have the NRO plan a second trip to these facilities during the period 17-21 November 1969 for the attached list of key DIAAP and DIACO officials. It is considered that this detailed familiarization/orientation is essential in support of the DIA mission and that the personnel involved have a definite "need-to-know."

3. Based on the detailed trip reports of DIA*participants in the ICRS trip, it is desirable that NRO planning encompass the following desired changes: (*DIACO/DIAAP)

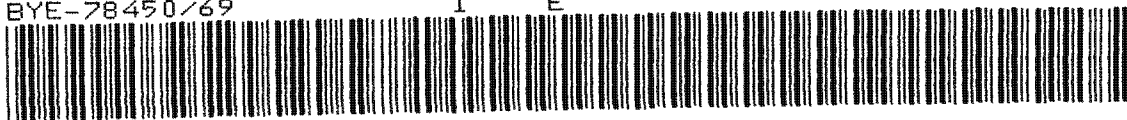
a. The orientation provided at the Vandenberg AFB launch facilities should occur on the last day of travel.

b. If possible, additional time should be allocated to provide for briefings and a visit to [redacted] where the EARPOP satellite is in production.

4. Although all officials listed do not have the requisite BYEMAN "E" clearance, it is desired that they participate, if possible, because of their direct involvement in the imagery collection and exploitation

BYE-78450/69

1 E



CY 1 of 4 CYS
PAGE 1 of 2 PAGES

~~TOP SECRET EARPOP~~

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management activities of DIA and that arrangements be made to exclude these personnel from the EARPOP aspects of the orientation.



**D. E. BERGIN
REAR ADMIRAL, USN
ACTING CHIEF OF STAFF**

1 Enclosure
DIAAP and DIACO
Nominees, (C), 1 cy

cc:
DIACO

~~TOP SECRET~~ 2 ~~EARPOP~~

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CY 1 of 4 CYS
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BTE-78450-69