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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

10 MAR 1976

Intelligence Community Staff



MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Charles W. Cook, Deputy Director, NRO
SUBJECT : Plans for Post KENNEN IOC Decisions

1. I have received your letter of 4 March on the above subject, and appreciate your views in this matter. We have reviewed the memo in detail and find your observations to be generally consistent with our own thoughts on how to approach this evaluation.

2. With respect to your statement of the fundamental questions to be addressed in the 1977 time frame, I agree that these important questions should be phrased along the lines that you have indicated in your memo. I am told that the COMIREX Evaluation Group, in defining its own objectives, is also approaching their analysis in this manner. I agree with your view that the ultimate success of this evaluation will be based on the degree to which we succeed in measuring the value of collection system strategies against essential national needs as opposed to imagery requirements. I share your concern that this is a difficult undertaking, and can assure you that we are devoting a large part of our attention to developing a reasonable approach in this area.

3. Although we have almost completed the coordination cycle on our proposed letter to Mr. Bush chartering this evaluation, I have asked my staff not to wait for Mr. Bush to sign the letter, but to work informally on developing the plans required for the evaluation so that we can meet the April CFI milestone. To this end I have asked my staff to work with working representatives from Mr. Ellsworth's office, Mr. Hyland's office, and your own office in order to informally develop the first draft of these plans. I understand that you have designated Lt Col Prochko as your liaison with the IC Staff, and we have been in touch with him relative to his participation on the preparation of this initial assessment plan.

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4. I am grateful for your latest views on this evaluation; in the main, I find myself in agreement with them. I look forward to your continued cooperation and assistance in the effort. Thanks.

Dick

Richard G. Rumney
Brigadier General, USAF
Acting Chief, Collection and
Processing Assessment Division

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~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

20 January 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR CFI PRINCIPALS

SUBJECT: KENNEN IOC

Initialization and checkout of the KENNEN System is almost complete and the system is ready to be targeted against denied area imagery. Almost all system parameters equal or exceed specifications.

While some technical problems remain to be solved, the acquisition and dissemination of denied area imagery will not interfere with conducting these remaining engineering tasks. Minor problems may interfere with collection of some imagery and thus not all attempted imagery may be productive.

KENNEN System IOC is declared effective 20 January 1977. While engineering checkout is being completed, the community will be gaining operational experience so that this revolutionary new capability may be exploited as soon as possible.

The DCI is today issuing at the TK level a notice on system IOC to the intelligence community that will include general information and guidance.

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Charles W. Cook

Charles W. Cook
Deputy Director

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