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November 7, 1962

EYES ONLY
[Redacted]
Col. Workman

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RESEARCH), CIA

SUBJECT: NRO Procedures in regard to Cuban Reconnaissance

Reference: DD(R)/CIA proposed memo for record dtd 23 Oct 62
D [Redacted] 947-52

In regard to the current Cuban reconnaissance operations, and to clarify questions raised by the referenced memo, the Joint Chiefs of Staff are responsible for the operational planning to cover specified reconnaissance objectives, and for all aspects of actual reconnaissance operations in accordance with approved plans. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are delegating to appropriate military commanders subordinate responsibilities for the planning and execution of these operations.

The JCS focal point for these operations is the Joint Reconnaissance Center. Since agreement has been reached with the Joint Chiefs of Staff concerning the placing of a CIA Liaison officer within the Joint Reconnaissance Center, I assume this officer is keeping the Deputy Director (Research) appropriately advised of these reconnaissance operations.

The Defense Intelligence Agency is responsible for recommending reconnaissance objectives on the basis of WPIC analysis of previous mission results, COMINT recommendations for additional target coverage, and tactical military requirements. Specific recommendations of the Deputy Director (Research) are incorporated in the development of the total objectives. Specific approvals on an individual aircraft and route basis, as you know, are given by the Executive Committee of the National Security Council.

The NRO staff is assigning processing responsibilities in accordance with my instructions and is monitoring all aspects of processing in conjunction with the Defense Intelligence Agency.

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The Director, NRO Staff, is responsible for advising the Director, Program "B" of all matters affecting CIA participation in the NRP.

In regard to the suggestion in the referenced memo concerning the establishment of CIA liaison with the NRO staff, I believe that the assignment of an individual solely for a liaison function is incompatible with the concept underlying the NRO. The NRO staff presently has Agency personnel assigned on a full-time basis. I feel that any additional staff membership also must be on the basis of full-time participation as an actual member of the NRO staff, assigned specific staff duties. The introduction of a liaison person into such a jointly manned staff would unquestionably be divisive, accentuate organizational differences, and impede the realization of an effective, cohesive, single NRO staff.

Respectfully,

Joseph V. Charyk
Director

(S) National Reconnaissance Office

1328-62