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Op-092/kfp
BYE-65678/69

2 JUL 1969

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BYEMAN CONTROL SYSTEMFrom: Navy SIGINT Overhead Reconnaissance Subcommittee (SORS) Member
To: Chairman, SIGINT Overhead Reconnaissance SubcommitteeSubj: Tasking of National Reconnaissance Program Assets for Ocean
Surveillance; request for

Ref: (a) Navy Member SORS letter serial BYE-65659/69 of 23 May 1969

1. Under the concept expressed in reference (a) the following requests
for tasking of the POPPY System are submitted:a. TASK ONE.I. REQUIREMENT.(1) Provide tracking information on the Soviet Naval surface
force in Mid-Atlantic.II. MISSION.(1) From ELINT search of an area in mid-Atlantic, west of
Gibraltar, track on a daily basis the Soviet Naval surface force.III. BACKGROUND.(1) On 23 June a 3 ship Soviet Cruiser/Destroyer force
consisting of the [redacted]
deployed from the Black Sea and after transiting the Mediterranean exited
Gibraltar on the 27th. At present they are in the vicinity of the Azores.(2) There are certain similarities between the current deploy-
ments and those in October 1968 which preceded a fleet visit to Casablanca,
followed by a transit to the Indian Ocean for some of the units. Several
factors suggest that this pattern is to be followed again. Only one Soviet
surface combatant is now in the Indian Ocean in contrast to the high level
of activity there earlier.~~TOP SECRET EARPOP~~~~TOP SECRET EARPOP~~
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IV. SITUATION.

(1) The Soviet force is in the Azores area and must be tracked to determine their location, their mission and final destination.

V. TASKING.

(1) Intelligence Desired:

a. Daily ship locations.

(2) System:

a. Task the POPPY System to be readout from the ground station.

(3) Geographical area of interest:

a. The Mid-North Atlantic Ocean area near the Azores.
(Exact location will be provided when tasking messages are drafted.)

(4) Time Frame:

a. Commence: Immediately.

b. Terminate: When Soviet force leaves area of coverage.

(5) Targets:

a. Ships:

b. Radars:

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BYEMAN CONTROL SYSTEM(6) Desired/collection operations:

a. Task two revs per day between [] and one rev per day between []

b. Task for [] radar.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS. The readout site will forward intercept information to COMNAVINTCOM.

b. TASK TWO.I. REQUIREMENT.

(1) Support the surface surveillance directed against the Soviet naval convoy using the Soviet Northern Sea Route in the KARA Sea, LAPTEV Sea and EAST SIBERIAN Sea areas.

II. MISSION.

(1) From ELINT search of convoy staging areas and transit routes provide information for tip-off to surface ships that will intercept the Soviet naval convoy.

III. BACKGROUND.

(1) Since before 1960 the Soviet Union has effected an annual transfer of naval ships via the Northern Sea Route from the Northern Fleet to the Pacific Fleet. The purpose of these transfers has been both to augment Pacific Fleet forces and to replace those units deactivated or transferred to other countries. The Soviet Northern Sea Route is important to the USSR as it is the only exclusively Soviet passage for transferring naval ships from the Western USSR to the Soviet and Chinese Communist Far East.

(2) Appropriate U. S. reconnaissance forces intercept the Soviet convoy to photograph and identify the transiting Soviet vessels and tabulate them for EOB purposes.

IV. SITUATION.

(1) A U. S. ship will be positioned at [] on 10 July

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to await tip-off on the start of the Soviet convoy. Tip-off will come from ice conditions in the transit area, ELINT, HFDF, and COMINT.

(2) When the Soviet convoy is believed underway the surveillance ship will leave and take up station west of Wrangel Island.

V. TASKING.

(1) Intelligence Desired: (In order of priority)

- a. Locations of radar activity in the area of interest.
- b. Types of radars radiating.

(2) Systems.

a. Task the POPPY System to be readout from the ground station.

(3) Geographical area of interest.

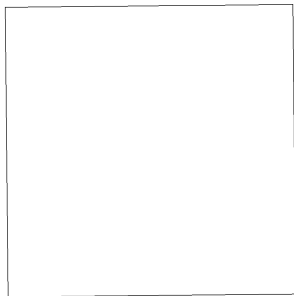
- a. The littoral area of northern USSR from 30E to 180°.

(4) Time Frame.

- a. Commence: 10 July 1969
- b. Terminate: At sighting of convoy by surface forces (but no later than 1 September 1969).

(5) Targets.

- a. Candidates for 1969 NSR convoy:



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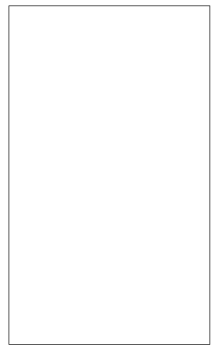
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b. Radars:



(6) Desired collection operations.

a. Task five revs per day between [] while convoy is forming and west of [] and task three revs per day between [] when convoy is east of []

b. Task for:



VI. COMMUNICATIONS.

(1) The readout site will forward intercept information to COMNAVINTCOM.

J. K. COKEFAIR
LCDR, USN

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