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

THE NRO STAFF

21 July 1975



MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF Weekly Activities Report 12-18 July 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:



25X1

c. [redacted] from SP visited during the afternoon of 15 July to discuss the Multipurpose Simulator being developed by SP for the NRP and its application for program 989. The discussion centered on the application of 989 resources against requirements stated by SORS and the limitations presently experienced by RCASP. The [redacted] has stated to SP that they should have the capability to balance resources against the requirements and select systems as they determine appropriate. We discussed the point that the resources and requirements should be balanced for all systems, not just 989s, and that this balance can only be determined at one central location. This location is now and should remain at the SOC, as this is the only place where all systems come together in a central point. We also discussed dropping RCASP and going after some other system such

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[redacted]

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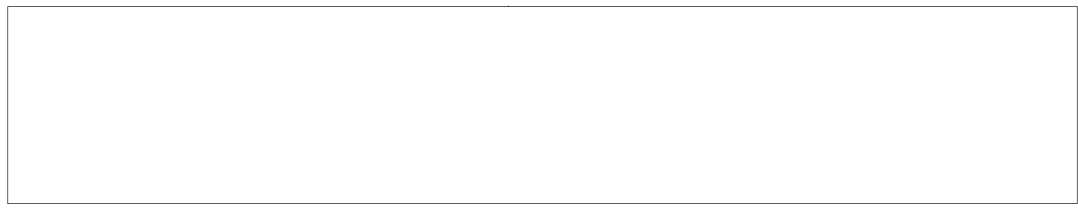
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as MPS to replace it as the software is old and almost entirely patchwork. The particular point was if a whole new system could be acquired more economically and efficiently, than repairs could be made to the RCASP. A whole new education and system definition would be required for a new system, and a major revision is needed for RCASP.

2. Programs:

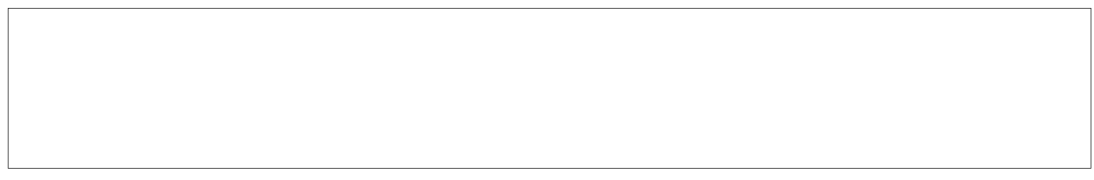


b. RAQUEL - The CW Technical Intelligence receiver continues to be inoperative. No failure mode has been found to date and no fixes are apparent.

25X1

3. Tasking:

a. URSALA I - Tasking was reduced to alleviate the problems experienced by the "no-modulation" problem where considerable data was being lost. Tasking was reduced to TCRs and first priority targets only.



c.1. POPPY: New task groups were generated to compensate for failed options in the payloads. No further significant reduction in collection capability is being experienced because of this change, but some added capability to process the data at NSA will be gained.

2. Signal Level Measurement (SLM) tasking for August, September and November was sent out to the Field Stations.

3. [redacted] were maximized during 16-18 July for ocean surveillance of the [redacted]

25X1
25X1



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[Redacted]

e. RAQUEL - Tasking against 12 conjunctions of 7341 and SPUT 843, 766 and 673 for the coming week was sent to [Redacted]

f. TOP HAT - Ten revs were tasked for [Redacted] con- junction for the next week.

25X1

g. URSALA - Missions 7338 and 7342 were tasked for maximum ocean surveillance coverage of the [Redacted] [Redacted] from 16-18 July to cover a [Redacted] that area.

25X1
25X1

25X1

4. TDY/Trips:

A meeting concerning the drift of [Redacted] is set for 23 July [Redacted]. Another meeting on the [Redacted] [Redacted] is set for 25 July at LA. [Redacted] will attend both. A stop at SAC is also planned.

[Redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4
SS-6
SS-7

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WASHINGTON, D.C

THE JOINT STAFF

29 July 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT - 19-25 July 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:



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b. [redacted] attended a meeting at SAC Headquarters on 24 July to discuss the receipt of [redacted] Maj's Tanner and Bahmfalk and [redacted] NSA representatives at SAC attended the meeting. [redacted] Truesdale and LtCol Shumway were present for part of the discussion. It was resolved that SAC desires to have access to information on what collection is being conducted by all ELINT systems, world-wide, every day.

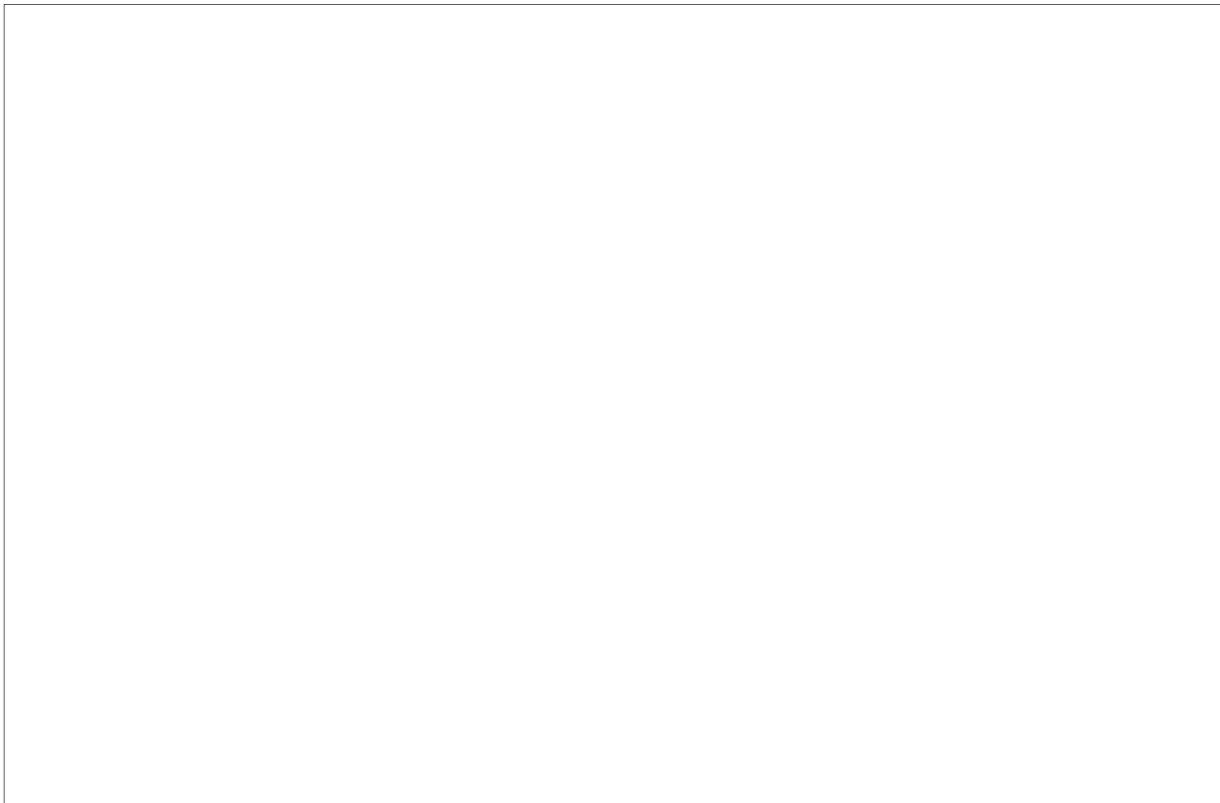
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The SIOP targets are only part of their overall goal, as stated by Maj Tanner. It was pointed out that the information that they desire is only partially contained in the [redacted] and without further data, such as a definition of the frequency scan pattern and alarm criteria table, all that one can determine is the antenna boresight for [redacted]. We reached agreement that SAC desires to receive the information in any form that is useable to them and the [redacted] is not the only means of doing that. We determined that the data on P-989s is available to them in the weekly study runs and [redacted] SAC, however, has not been attempting to use that information. Maj Tanner asked to find a simpler reporting vehicle for the 989s. SAC has not used the POPPY data we have been sending to them, as they believe that the location confidence ellipse is too large for their purposes. In summary, SAC has available to them at present time all the collection tasking for P-989s, POPPY [redacted]. We reached agreement that we would add the Mid-East to the reports, and that other targets could be added as required.

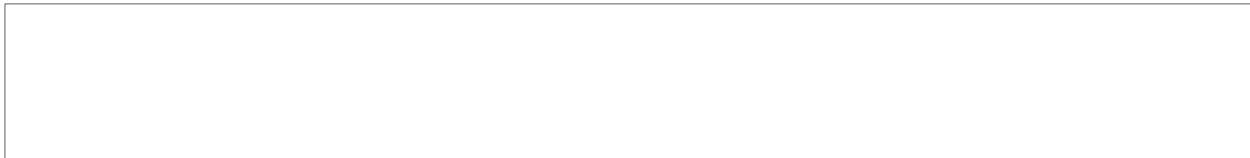
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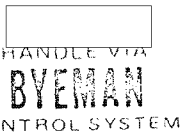


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2. Programs:



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[Redacted]

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b. RAQUEL - 7341 RI pre-detection receiver remains inoperative. The cause of the malfunction remains unknown.

3. Tasking:

[Redacted]

b. TOP HAT - 16 revs of [Redacted] tasking are scheduled for the forthcoming week.

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c. RAQUEL - 18 revs of Type II command uplink are scheduled for the next week.

[Redacted]

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cc: SS-4
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SS-7

[Redacted]

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THE NRO STAFF

13 August 1975

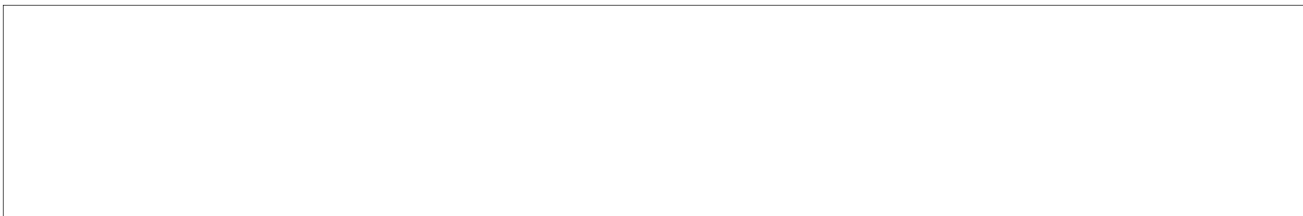


MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF Weekly Activities Report, 2-8 August 1975

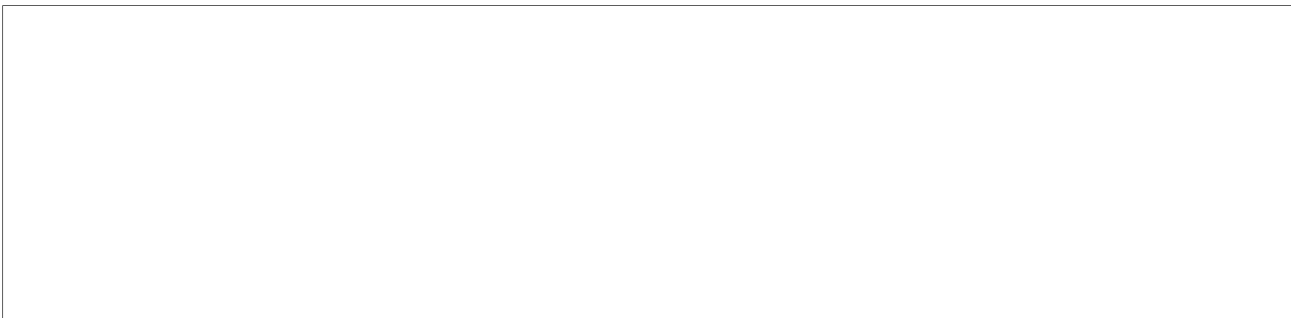
1. Meetings/Discussions:

a. The final meeting of the [] Mission Planning Working Group was held at CIA on 6 August to make last-minute changes to the draft to be presented to SORS. A clean copy will be distributed by the SORS secretariat for review by the Members and subsequent approval.



c. Maj. Bob MacDaniels, the P-989 Project Officer for [] was present on 7 August for discussions on current and future operations. The prime purpose of his visit to the East Coast was to participate in discussions on RAQUEL IA vs II. Upon his return, he plans to send a formal message to obtain the decision on which way to proceed. Discussions also were held on current operations at the []

25X1



2. Programs:

a. RAQUEL - It now appears that there is no hope of regaining the Technical ELINT capability of Mission 7341. The cause of the failure remains unknown. The digital capability for both pulsed and CW is operating normally.

[] ~~EARPOP~~

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3. Tasking Changes:

a. 7340 - 15 Revs were tasked for [redacted] for the week.
One rev was tasked for conjunctions with the [redacted]
to attempt to locate other uplinks.

25X1

25X1

b. 7341 - 10 Revs were tasked for type II command
uplink conjunctions for the week.

c. 7342 - 6 Revs were tasked for conjunctions with
the [redacted] to attempt to detect new associated signals.

25X1

4. Trips/TDY:

a. [redacted]



b. [redacted]



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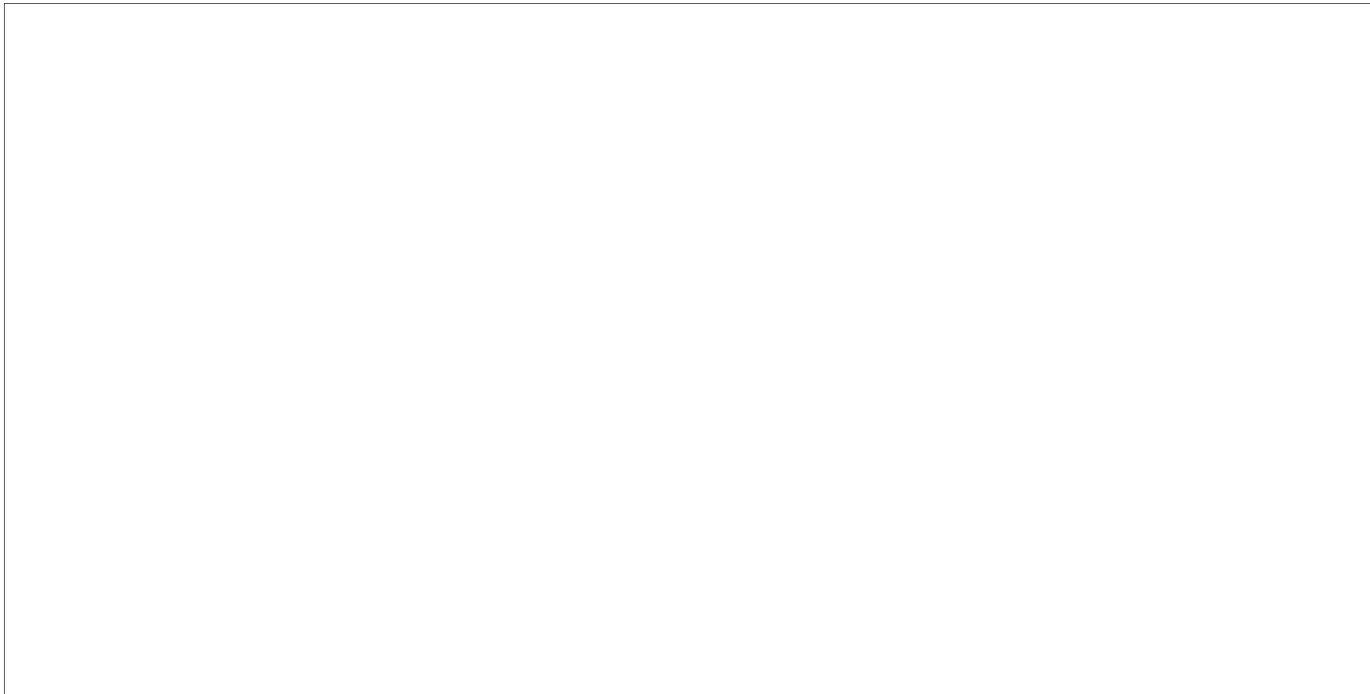
THE NRO STAFF

28 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF Weekly Activities Report, 9-15 August 1975

A. Meetings/Discussions:



B. Programs:

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1. POPPY [redacted] The expected people and space limitations are beginning to be felt at the POPPY ground stations in preparation for the [redacted] Further reduction in POPPY operations will be necessary in the near future. Currently, the following schedule is anticipated for termination of POPPY operations:



31 Oct 75
31 Mar 76
31 Jan 76

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When POPPY is no longer providing useful data.

[redacted]
on POPPY as of 1 Jan 76.

[redacted] ~~EARPOP~~

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Note that this will mean that only one POPPY station [redacted] will be operational after March 1976. We must address the point - Is it worth maintaining the system with only one ground station? - as this is the current plan. Alternately, should we press to maintain one ground site [redacted] One other option could be to ship the operational capability from [redacted] to continue POPPY operations.

25X1

2. A test is planned for RAQUEL Mission 7341 to lower the payload temperature over the period 15-17 August in an attempt to isolate the cause of the loss of TI data from the spacecraft.

C. Tasking Changes:

1. Conjunction tasking for 7340 and 7342 and the [redacted] CC003 was cancelled as the satellite is no longer operational.

25X1

25X1

2. Increased J-band coverage of North Korea by RAQUEL mission 7341 was implemented to establish signal activity level as a part of an overall survey.

[redacted]

25X1

4. Eleven revs were tasked for [redacted] collection by TOP HAT Mission 7340.

25X1

5. The modes and goals for URSALA 7342 were altered to increase the amount of three and four-band tasking. This change was made at the suggestion of the [redacted] as processing capabilities are improved in the handling of multi-band data.

D. Trips/TDys:

[redacted]

2. [redacted] is considering a trip to [redacted] to visit the POPPY [redacted] in early September in the company of [redacted]

cc: SS-4, SS-6, SS-7

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THE NRO STAFF

29 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF Weekly Activities Report, 16-22 August 1975

A. Meetings/Discussions:



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B. Programs:

1. RAQUEL mission 7341 payload was cooled to 44 deg.F in an attempt to reacquire the TI data. No success.

2. A test period of shipment of unedited URSALA TCR data from the [] was concluded on 18 August after a trial of one month. The average delivery time (in [] bldg) was []

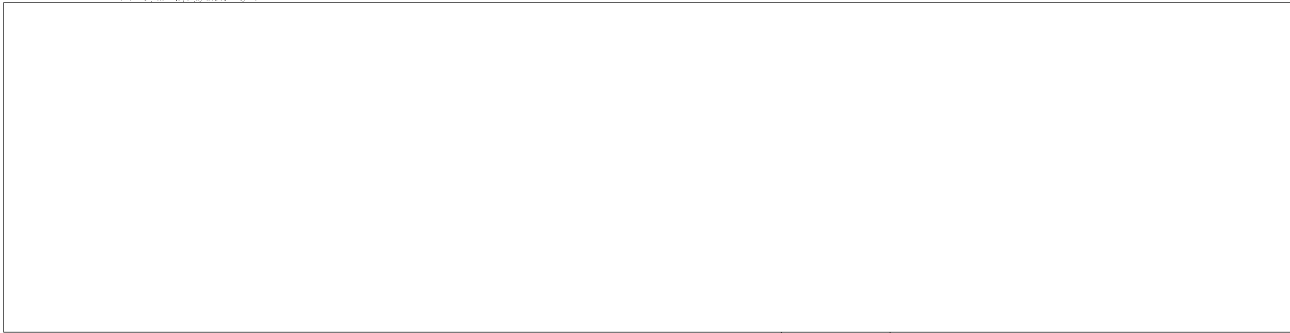
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[] /EARPOP



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C. Tasking:



25X1

2. Fifteen revs were tasked for [] collection by 7340 for the week.

25X1

3. A TCR for 7342 and [] was initiated on 21 August which will extend through 24 September in support of a CINCLANT transit from Charleston to the Norwegian Sea and return.

25X1



25X1

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cc: SS-4
SS-6
SS-7

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THE NRO STAFF

2 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF Weekly Activities Report, 23-29 August 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

[Redacted]

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b. The monthly POPPY TOG meeting was held at NSA on 28 August. The health of the spacecraft and payloads continue to be nominal. The spacecraft are currently in 100% sun for a short period, then reenter an extended double-dip eclipse period that will last until late November. NRL plans to conduct an engineering evaluation in November at [redacted]. Based on the results of this evaluation, NRL has been asked to provide their best estimate of the expected life of the POPPY system. The mission was launched in December 1971 and will be nearly two years beyond the MMD of two years. The continuation of POPPY operations is important in that NSG does not have sufficient properly trained people to operate POPPY [redacted]. The simultaneous suspension of POPPY operations at [redacted] [redacted] would leave [redacted] in orbit without a ground station to collect the data. A working group headed by the SPO will prepare options for consideration by the concerned groups within the next two weeks.

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2. Programs:

[Redacted]

[redacted] BARPOP

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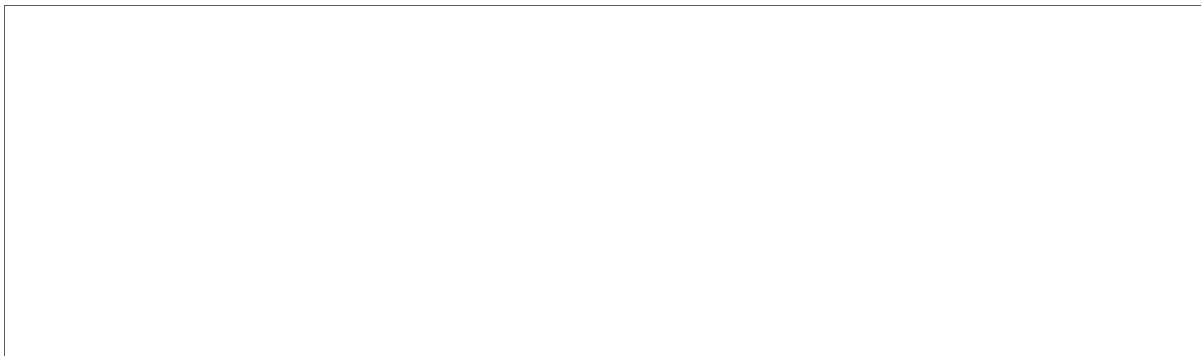
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3. Tasking Changes:

a. A new mode was established for TOP HAT 7340 to improve antenna selection data for 10-second readings.

b. Thirteen revs were tasked for [redacted] collection by 7340.

25X1



4. Trips/TDY:

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[redacted] will accompany [redacted] to [redacted] on Wednesday, 3 September, to take action on Dr. Hall's request to implement direct reporting of [redacted] data.



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cc: SS-4
SS-6
SS-7

[redacted] ~~EARPOP~~

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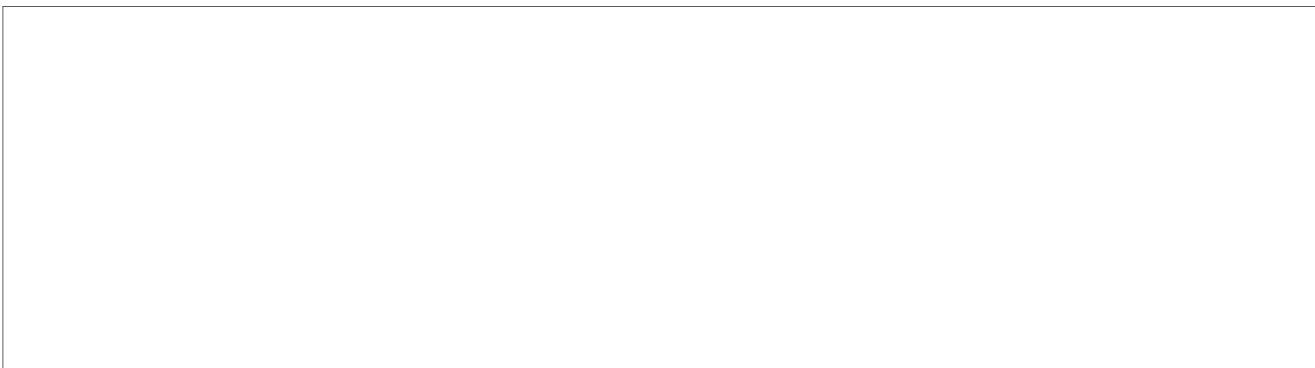
THE NRO STAFF

9 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

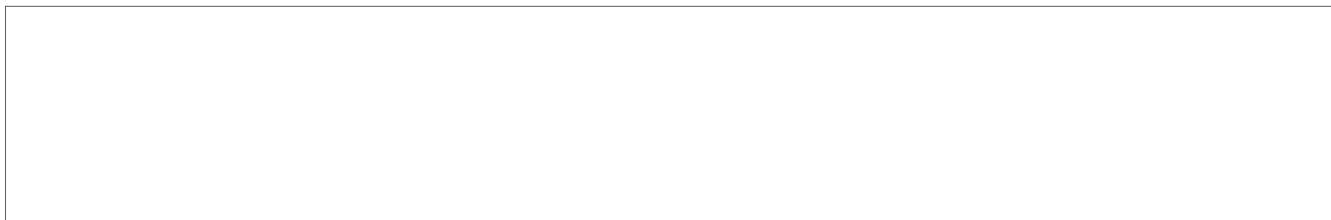
SUBJECT: NDF Weekly Activities Report, 28 August -
5 September 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions



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b. On 3 September, LtCdr Beckham and Maj Shields attended a briefing at NSA presented by Col Millson of DIA. The purpose of the briefing was to explain the mission, purpose and function of the DIA Collection and Coordination Facility (CCF). According to the briefing, the CCF mission statement is: "Assure the optimum interactive-all-source-tasking of collection, processing and reporting systems in direct support of the time sensitive needs of the operational commanders and national command authorities". More specifically, the CCF is to act as a buffer between the analysts (intelligence users) and intelligence collectors. Its function will be to insure the right questions are asked of the correct intelligence collector and that the returned answer is time responsive, adequate and in a usable format.

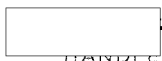


2. Programs

a.



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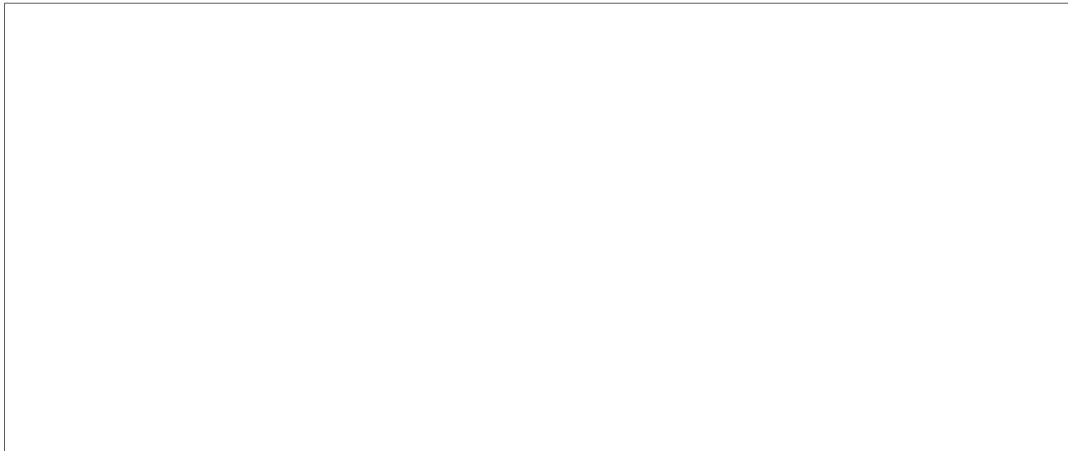
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3. Tasking Changes

- a. URSALA II - Coverage of the U.S.S. NIMITZ was lifted while the group is in port in Germany.
- b. URSALA coverage of the White Sea area was increased from 75% to 100% and reporting was increased in timeliness to search for the target signal associated with



25X1

- c. TOP HAT - A new area covering [redacted] defined for coverage by mission 7340.

25X1

- d. TOP HAT - Eleven passes for [redacted] collection were tasked for the next week.

25X1

4. Trips/TDY

- a. [redacted]

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- b. [redacted] will be visiting [redacted] 10-12 September.



CHIEF, NDF

cc - SS-4
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

16 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 6-12 SEPTEMBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

[Redacted]

25X1

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

a. Mission 7340 - FTR tasking week (15-21 Sep) 13 Revs

b. Missions 7107, 7338, 7342 - Missions were tasked to cover a possible impending [redacted] launch for the period of 7 through 12 September and again on 15 September from 0400 to 1700Z. Task was assigned a priority of four behind The Sea of Okhotsk, Mid-East and Nimitz Ops. Coverage of the USS Nimitz and CTG 88.1 continues with arrival in the VACAPES operating area now expected on 24 September.

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3. Mission Data Update:

[Redacted]

b. POPPY, [redacted] recommenced operations at 1200Z on 13 September after being down for on-site [redacted] personnel training.

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4. Trips/TDY:

a. TSgt Merkey is planning a trip to [redacted]

[redacted] BARPOP

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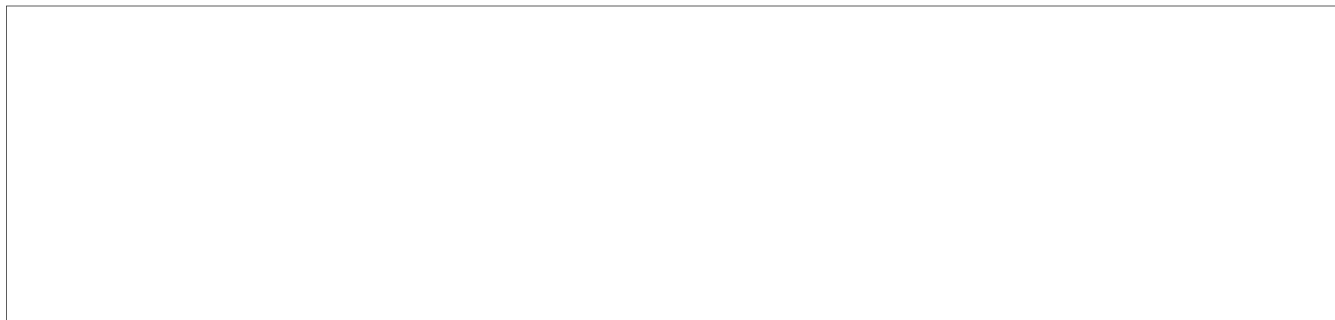
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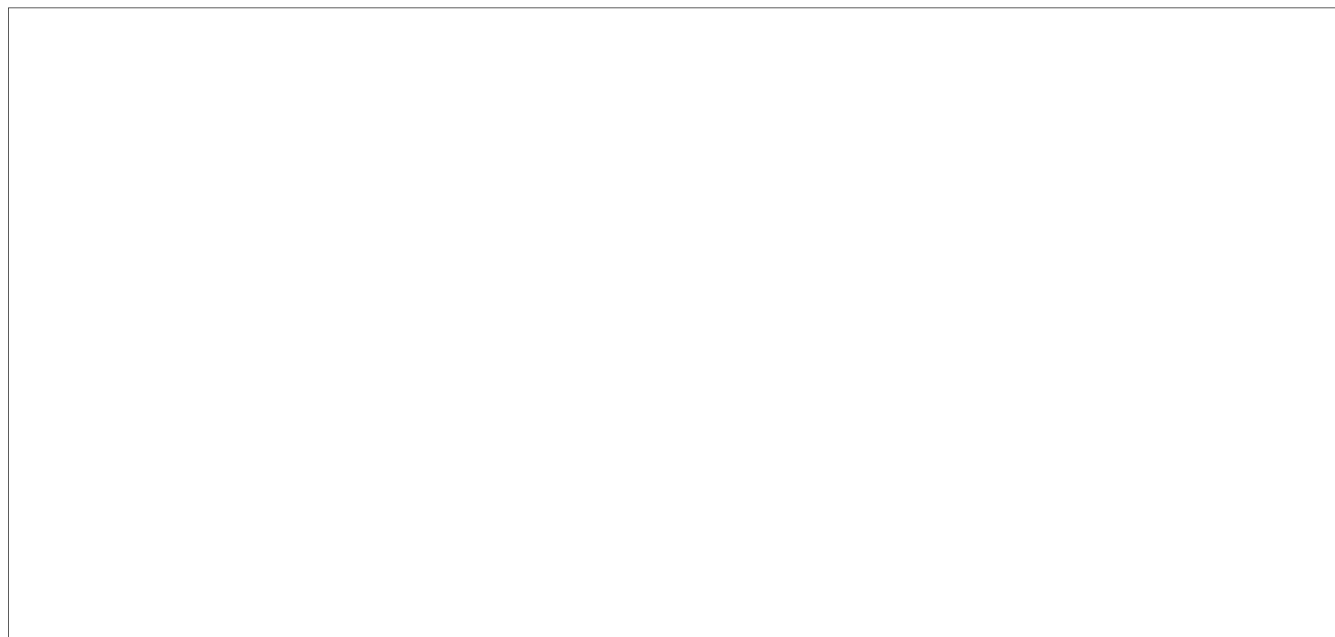
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(23-25 September) to participate in discussions pertaining to processing capabilities.



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Following the facility tour, several hours were spent discussing POPPY [redacted] problems, particularly as pertains to [redacted]

A discussion of the POPPY [redacted] issue is included as an attachment to the NDF Weekly Activities summary.



CHIEF, NDF

Attachment -
POPPY, [redacted]

cc: SS-4
SS-6
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THE NRO STAFF

23 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 13-19 SEPTEMBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

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a. Msn 7340 - FTR tasking for week of 22-28 SEP 75 (9 Revs).

b. Msn 7342 -

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Revised PIM for NIMITZ Ops.

[Redacted]

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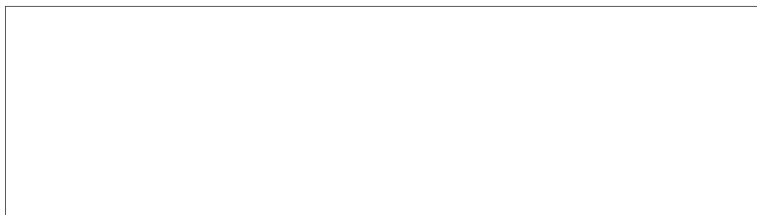
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c. Msn 7338/7342 -

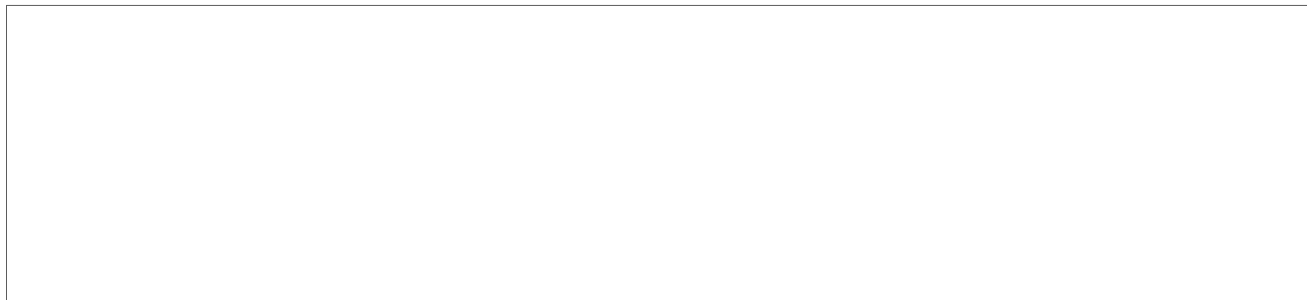
d. Msn 7341 -



25X1

3. Mission Data Update:

a. MABELI - New Mission Guidance.



c. POPPY/[redacted] - Charlie payload command and collection operations were temporarily terminated on 17 September (rev 18846) due to low positive battery voltage problems. After a period of primary battery charging with no operations, NRL conducted testing and observation at [redacted] and recommended that operations be resumed during sunlight only until primary battery health improves.

25X1

The POPPY satellites are now entering a period of low sunlight which will last for approximately 90-days. NDF is in the process of working up low current drain task groups for the Charlie and Delta payloads. Alfa and Bravo low drain task groups are already in use.

4. Trips/TDY:

None projected at present.



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THE NRO STAFF

29 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 22-28 SEPTEMBER 1975

1. MEETINGS/DISCUSSIONS:

[Redacted]

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b. On 22 September, [Redacted] attended a "POPPY" [Redacted] meeting at NIC. Also in attendance were representatives from Program C, SOC, NRL, NSG, NSA, SPO and CNO. The purpose of the meeting was to "initiate a study to evaluate the costs and benefits associated with continued POPPY operations until Mission 7107 satellites undergo natural degradation". During the course of the meeting, the following "position statements" were presented:

- 1. CNO - desires continued ocean surveillance;
- 2. NSA - desires continued exploitation of the POPPY satellites until such time as they no longer produce useful data.
- 3. NRL - the POPPY payloads will probably continue to operate satisfactorily for at least another year;

25X1

4. Program C - money should not be the driving consideration for continued POPPY operations;

5. NSG - continued operations at [Redacted] would be extremely difficult and expensive. Continued operations at [Redacted] would be possible but are undesirable due to [Redacted] physical space limitations. Continued operations at [Redacted] are possible but difficult because of shortage of trained personnel. POPPY operations at [Redacted] would be difficult because of personnel shortage and product would be of relatively little value. [Redacted] POPPY, [Redacted] operation at [Redacted] is most favored because space

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[Redacted] EARPOP

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and trained personnel are available, and because the product would be more useful than from other proposed locations.

The consensus of the meeting was to study the cost and feasibility of a [redacted] at [redacted]

[redacted] A report of the meeting will be published in the near future. Results of the study are due by October 15th.

25X1

c. The PTOG met on 25 September and was attended by [redacted] Some of the attendees expressed concern over the fact that the "community" hears only what is wrong with POPPY and never anything about what is right. In fact, POPPY is still very much alive, and the actual collection capability remains essentially undiminished even though some of the switching options are no longer operable. NRL will provide a status report emphasizing POPPY's capabilities upon completion of the November Engineering Evaluation.

[redacted]

25X1

[redacted] The meeting was terminated with a review of the result of the 22 September POPPY [redacted] meeting.

25X1

2. TASKING/TASKING CHANGES:

a. POPPY [redacted]

25X1

(1) NIMITZ Ops tasking expired on 24 September. A total of 38 intercepts were reported in support of this task.

(2) Sea of Okhotsk coverage was terminated on 22 September.

(3) Tasking for Exercise Ocean Safari 75 began on 27 September with coverage of the Atlantic transit of Task Group 21.6. The actual exercise will commence on 10 November and continue through 20 November.

b. LOW ORBITORS:

(1) 7340 - FTR tasking for week of 29 September - 05 October (12 revs).

(2) 7338/7341/7342 - TCR requirement for Sea of Okhotsk terminated.

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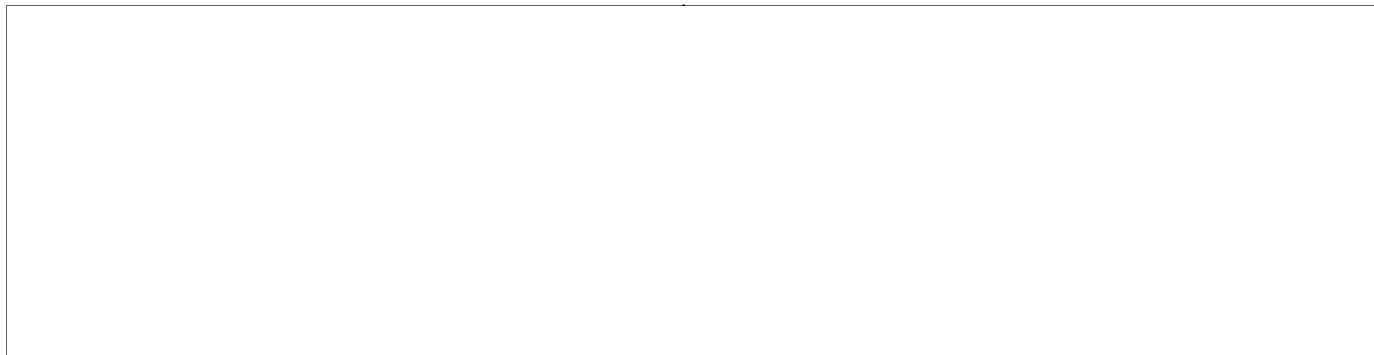
(3) 7341 - Scheduled rev 5006 for [redacted] operation.

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(4) 7338/7341/7342 - New TCR established to provide increased coverage of Eastern Mediterranean. Sea of Okhotsk and NIMITZ transit TCRs are cancelled.

(5) 7342 - New TCR established for exercise OCEAN SAFARI.

3. MISSION DATA UPDATE:



b. Mission 7107 -

(1) Low yield task groups were implemented for BRAVO payload on 18 September due to low voltage readings. Use of low yield task groups will continue for the duration of the current low sun cycle (approx through the end of December).

(2) The Charlie payload voltages continue to look good. Low yield (current drain) task groups have been constructed for use by Charlie during daylight only tasking. At present the payload is not being commanded/collected during darkness.

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4. TRIPS/TDY:

TSgt Merkey traveled to [redacted] to discuss possible reduction in personnel or moving part of [redacted] operation to NSA due to funding cut. Other topics discussed: New MABEII Mission Guidance and new RSNAP software.

LEE R. CAIN, JR.
CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4
SS-6
SS-7

[redacted] /EARPOP

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

6 October 1975

THE NRO STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 27 Sep - 03 Oct 75

1. Meetings/Discussions:

[Redacted]

25X1

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

- a. Mission 7340 - FTR tasking for week of 6-12 Oct 75
- b. Mission 7339 - New mission guidance implemented
- c. Mission 7341 - Tasked for [Redacted]

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3. Mission Data Update:

[Redacted]

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4. Trips/TDY: None

[Redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

14 October 1975

THE NRO STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 04-10 OCTOBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

a. MGen Brown (SAC-IN) and Maj Tanner were present for discussions on the SAC-ROC 11-74 and SIOP-5 collection during the week. A briefing was presented on the results of scenario collection against the MINSK-KALININGRAD area 15 Jun-15 Jul. A possible discrepancy was noted in the amount of P-989 collection time as presented in the briefing and actual coverage. Also, a lack of POPPY data was noted. A quick check shows that at least eight signals of interest were detected. Further action is required also on the reporting of collection operations in feedback to SAC.

b. Maj W. Wagener and Capt Fischer from the [] were present for discussions on the SAC-ROC, possible moves of the [] and tasking of the P-989's. Specifically, meetings were held on possible difficulties in upper frequency collection by TOP HAT.

c. Maj Molvar and Mr. P. Cremins from the DO office at [] were present for the SAC briefings and to discuss tasking and the new General Mission Guidance.

25X1

d. LtCol Prochko and DIA representatives visited on 10 Oct to discuss a collection simulation study of North Korea using all SIGINT resources.

e. A meeting with A-81 and V394 was held to discuss lack of intercept of [] signals. 2-MHz frequency search was proposed and implemented.

25X1

f. Meeting with Capt. Fischer and Maj Wagener for discussions on the new TACS (target area collection summary) which will replace the old RSNAP summary.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

a. Mission 7340: FTR tasking for week of 13-19 Oct 75 - (14 revs).

b. Mission 7341: One rev for [] operation for ESP.

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c. Mission 7342: Tasking for Ocean Safari terminated on 7 Oct 75.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

3. Mission Data Update:

a. POPPY [Redacted] payload is not being collected at all on revs that are even partially dark, and low drain task groups are being implemented during sunlight for [Redacted] and during low sunlight [Redacted]

25X1

There have also been recent low voltage problems with the [Redacted] payload. NRL is presently monitoring the voltages in order to assess the health of the [Redacted] payload.

[Redacted]

4. Trips/TDY: Nothing to report.

[Redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4
SS-6
SS-7

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

20 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 11 October - 17 October 75

1. Meetings/Discussions:

a. [redacted]
[redacted]

25X1

b. [redacted] met with IC staff members on Thursday to discuss the Phase Zero and Mission Planning Upgrade studies. Considerable discussion surrounded the SAC ROC 11-74 scenario tasking.

c. [redacted] attended the first meeting of the 5-Year Plan TAB D (ELINT) update working group. DIA is chairing the group. The group plans to clarify OPS ELINT requirements for overhead resources.

d. [redacted] presented a briefing on the NRO and requirements flow to W25 at NSA on Friday, 17 October, in response to a request from the Chief, Bill Kennedy.

e. Discussions were held with NSA SORS rep concerning the feedback to SAC of collection against SIOP-5 targets. A msg was sent to SAC suggesting consideration of specific data required.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

a. LOW ORBITORS:

(1) Missions 7338, 7342, 7341 - "CINCPACFLT Special Support" tasking for 23 October - 5 November 1975.

(2) Mission 7340 - Special [redacted] tasking for period 20-26 October 1975.

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(3) Mission 7340 - Special FTR calibration scheduled for 21 October 1975.

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~~TOP SECRET~~HANDLE VIA
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The 7107 Mission Task Group Listing is now being produced at Ft. Meade instead of at the Pentagon. In the past it was necessary for the NDF to carry a 2,000 (approximate) IBM card deck (plus the changes) to the SOC for listing. Not only was this an inconvenience for all parties concerned, it also posed a serious security hazard, as the data contained on the cards is classified TOP SECRET EARPOP. The card deck has now been read onto tape at NSA and can be updated or listed with a minimum amount of effort. At the same time, the format has been changed in an attempt to make the listing more useable and useful. The copies for NRL, NSG, PM-106 and SS-4 are transferred to tape and transmitted via 9400 to the SOC for printing and distribution. The copies for NSA, [] and SS-4A are printed and distributed by the NDF at Ft. Meade.

25X1

3. Mission Data Update:
b. POPPY []

25X1

(1) [] resumed operations on 11 October after being down for [] since 29 September.

(2) Low battery voltages continue to cause problems for POPPY. This condition is primarily due to two factors; a natural deterioration of the solar cells which provide charging current to the batteries, and a decrease in the amount of available sunlight to activate the cells. The amount of available sunlight varies at a cyclic rate with a period of approximately ninety days. At present, POPPY is about half way through the "low-sun" portion of the current cycle. Consequently, there is not enough sunlight to maintain the batteries at a sufficiently charged state to conduct normal tasking. In order to alleviate this situation, several steps have been taken during the past month to reduce the current drain of the payloads:

(a) Low yield task groups have been implemented [] Collection is conducted in both daylight and darkness.

(b) Low yield task groups were also constructed and implemented for [] payload for collection during daylight only.

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(c) SLM task groups have been modified to reduce current drain to approximately 300 to 350 ma.

Because low current drain task groups are constructed by deleting RF bands, these steps have resulted in a decrease in collection capability. This capability is further reduced by the fact that collection frequently must be terminated early because the batteries have reached their low voltage limit.

While it is obvious that the collection capability of the POPPY system has been reduced, the amount of reduction in actual collection is difficult to access and requires a lot of subjective analysis. The NDF is presently attempting to make an educated guess with the thought in mind that it might be time to review collection priorities and the method of tasking. (More about this next week.) In the interim, [redacted], NDF POPPY/[redacted] Project Officer (5103s), would appreciate any comments or suggestions along these lines.

4. Trips/TDY: Consideration is being given to accompanying SAC representatives to [redacted] for discussions on SAC SIOP-5 requirements during the week of 3-7 November. Military Air will be available from Omaha.

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[redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4
SS-6
SS-7

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

TO: NRO STAFF

31 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 18-24 OCTOBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions

a.

[Redacted]

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(1)

[Redacted]

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c. [] attended the first meetings of the 5-year Plan Tab-B (COMINT) working group. Among the new issues for this year is NSA's desires for increased [] collection. Adequate discussion of the issue has been hampered somewhat by the lack of proper clearances of some of the working group members (including the NRO Rep).

25X1

[]

25X1

e. [] NDF, and DIA representatives continued work on a scenario for sigint coverage of North Korea in 1978. The NDF will provide collection opportunities for each system for the scenario.

f. [] attended the second meeting of the ELINT Tab-D working group. The next meeting is set for 28 Oct.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes

a. POPPY/[]

New "reduced drain" SLM task groups for Alpha and Bravo have been constructed for tasking of both payloads during darkness. NRL currently recommends a maximum current drain of 200 to 250 m.a. for normal task groups and 300 to 350 m.a. for SLM groups for tasking of 7107A and B during darkness. The reduced drain SLM groups were designed to meet these recommendations. Normal current drain task groups are now being used for daylight tasking of 7107A and B. The daylight only tasking restriction for 7107C remains in effect.

25X1

Although low battery voltages have caused some concern about the health of 7107D, normal tasking continues with NRL monitoring and evaluating the voltages on a rev by rev basis. A reduction in tasking for 7107D is not anticipated at this time.

b. LOW ORBITORS:

(1) Msn 7338/7341 - Tasking for improved HAWK test at White Sands, New Mexico implemented.

[]/EARPOP

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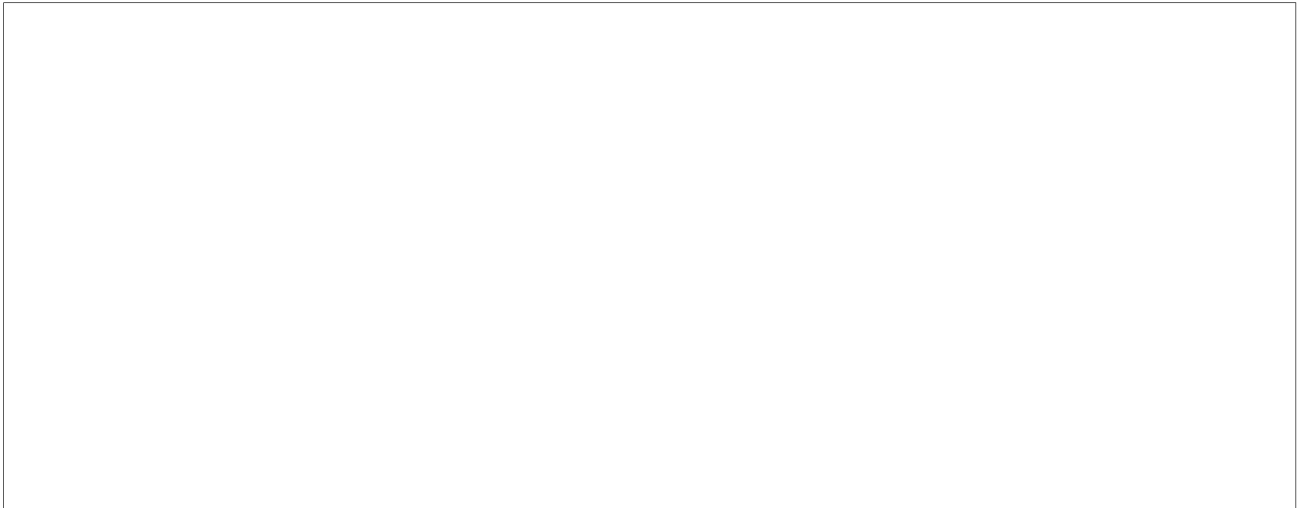
(2) Msn 7340 - Special conjunction tasking for week of 27 Oct - 2 Nov sent.

(3) Msn 7342 - Exercise Ocean Safari for period 10-20 Nov 75.

(4) Msn 7341 - operation for week of 27 Oct - 2 Nov.

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(5) Msn 7340 - Special Main Beam tasking for 5 readings each against 3 sectors.

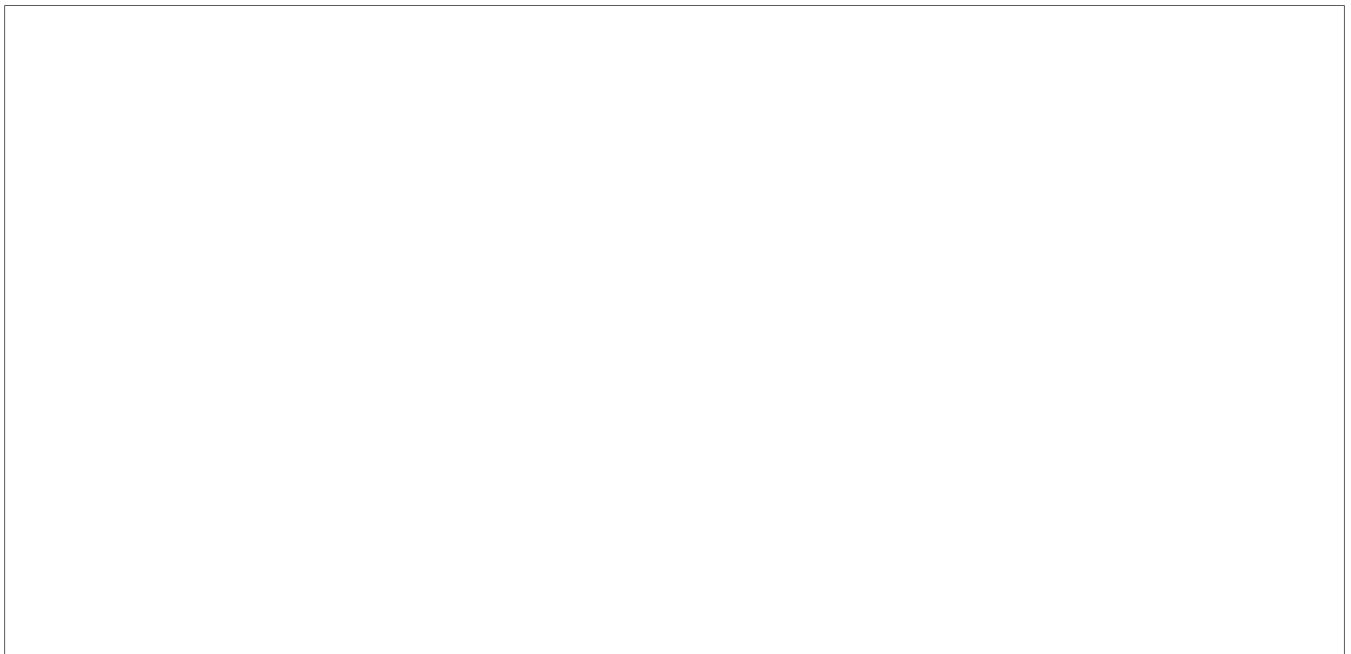


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3. Mission Data Update

a. LOW ORBITOR: Mission 7340 special FTR calibration scheduled results were negative.

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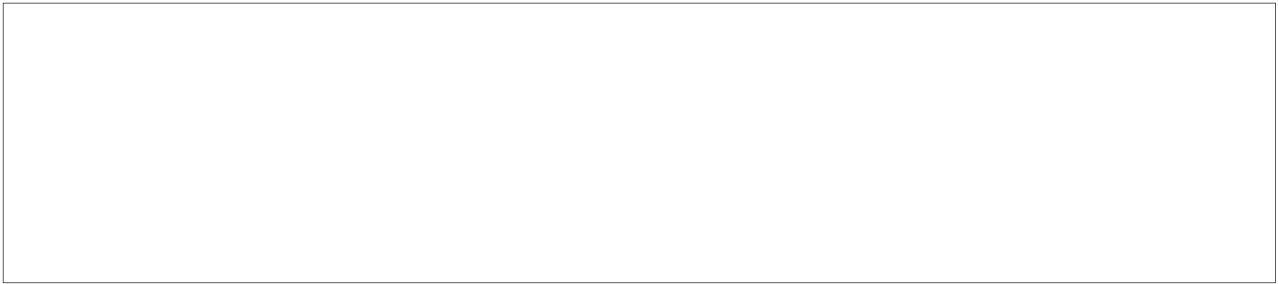
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4. Trips/TDY

a. SAC representatives (Mai Tanner) has requested that [redacted] and [redacted] accompany them on a briefing trip to [redacted] during the week of 3 Nov.

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b. [redacted] is planning to attend the Quarterly Program Review in Sunnyvale and the Planning meeting during the week of 3 Nov.



CHIEF, NDF

- cc - SS-4
- SS-5 (LtCol Detelich)
- SS-6
- SS-7

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE NRO STAFF

31 October 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 25-31 OCTOBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions

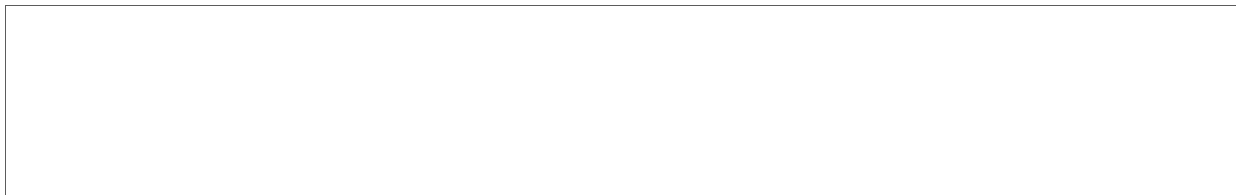
a. The third meeting of the Tab-D (ELINT) 5-Year Plan working group was held by DIA on Tuesday, 28 Oct. The final meeting is set for 3 Nov.

b. A copy of the RUFFER and ROSTER RCMs were provided to SS-5 for their review and coordination. These RCMs are published by NSA and have been a source of some confusion in the past.

c. The NDF and collocated V394 has moved to 2E165 on the opposite side of NSOC. Phone numbers have remained the same.

d. The monthly POPPY TOG meeting was held at NRL on 30 Oct. Maj Shields attended from NDF. Highlights of the meeting were as follows:

(1) Mission status - NRL stated that although low battery voltages have necessitated a reduction in tasking, the payloads are basically healthy. Low yield task groups are now being utilized for Alpha and Bravo collection on all revs which are not in full sunlight. Charlie is not commanded or collected on revs during which any darkness occurs and is tasked with low yield task groups on full sun revs. Delta is still tasked normally, but is being monitored by NRL because of the high number of early resets for low voltages. Upon completion of the engineering evaluation now scheduled for 10-12 Nov, NRL will provide two reports to the community. One will be technical in nature and will address system health and life expectancy in detail. The second will be an executive summary of the first. 25X1


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(4) Disposition of Equipment - NRL presented their proposal for disposition of POPPY equipment; however, continuation of the POPPY program had not been considered in it's construction.

e. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

25X1

f. The next POPPY TOG will be hosted by NDF on 25 Nov.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes

a. LOW ORBITORS:

(1) Mission 7341 - North Korea tasking for 30-day period.

(2) Mission 7341 - Tasking for [Redacted] at [Redacted]

25X1

25X1

(3) Mission 7340 - Special conjunction tasking for week of 03-10 Nov.

b. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

3. Mission Data Update

[Redacted]

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b. LOW ORBITOR: New Mission Guidance for msn 7341.

[Redacted]

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d. POPPY [Redacted] On rev 19426, [Redacted] reported that the Delta Payload began to intermittently transpond the 200 usec pulse width, vice the correct PW of 80 usec, on down links 13 and 15. Cross talk between DL 02 and DL 13 was also noted intermittently throughout the same pass. The malfunction has been recurring and appears to be associated only with task groups C82 and T20. These task groups have bands 02 and 08 in common, and it is suspected that the problem may be associated with band 02. Band 08 is common to most currently used task groups, while band 02 is seldom used. Investigation of the problem continues at present, but NRL is not overly concerned.

4. Trips/TDY

a. [Redacted] will travel to SAC HO on 02 Nov to accompany Maj Tanner on a tour to [Redacted] to brief the results of the SAC ROC scenario conducted 15 Jun - 15 Jul. Also, methods of improving "feedback" to SAC will be investigated. A message containing a statement of requirement for collection feedback was received on 28 Oct.

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[Redacted]

25X1

[Redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

- cc - SS-4
- SS-5 (LtCol Detelich)
- SS-6
- SS-7

(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

17 November 1975

THE NRO STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 8-14 November 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

a. Additional meetings were held on TAB-D (ELINT) of the 5-Year Plan. Discussions centered on capabilities required to simultaneously intercept multiple signals in different frequency bands and location accuracy requirements.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

[Redacted]

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b. LOW ORBITORS -

(1) Msn 7340 - Two calibrations are scheduled to further determine the operability of the FTR receiver.

(2) Msns 7338, 7341 and 7342 - Were tasked in support of possible

[Redacted]

25X1

(3) Msn 7341 - One Rev was tasked in support of ESP at

[Redacted]

25X1

3. Mission Data Update:

a. POPPY, [Redacted] NRL has completed the scheduled mission 7107 engineering evaluation. According to their preliminary report, 7107AB and C retain full ELINT collection frequency coverage. 7107D bands 6, 7 and 18 (1205-1800, 9600-10500 and 14500-14800 MHz respectively) and the SLM subsystem are inoperative. In addition, it appears that bands 1 and 2 can not be tasked together. This most recent malfunction is still under investigation by NRL engineers. A more complete evaluation of collection capability will be provided in a follow-up report.

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[Redacted]

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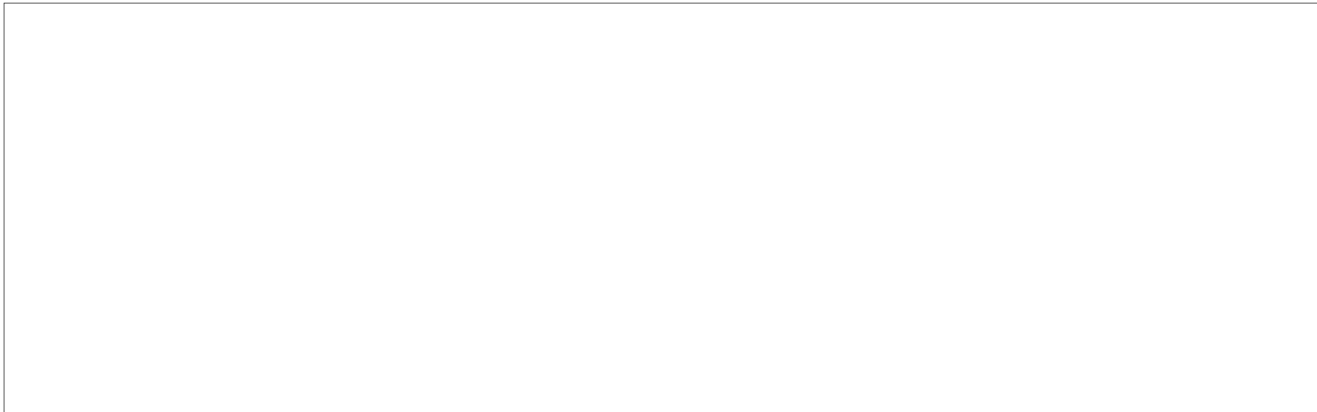
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4. Trips/TDY:

a. [redacted] completed a trip with SAC representatives to [redacted] [redacted] to brief the results of the SAC-ROC scenario conducted in the Minisk-Kaliningrad area 15 June - 15 July. A separate trip report is provided regarding the results of the trip and resulting action items.

25X1

b. From 3-7 Nov, [redacted] visited SAMSO and [redacted] and [redacted] for orientation. At [redacted] in addition to the tour, he attended briefings and tours of the STC and attended the Maxi-Review.



CHIEF, NDF

- cc: SS-4
- SS-5 (LtCol Detelich)
- SS-6
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HE NRO STAFF

24 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 15-21 November 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

a. Discussions were held with NSA and SAC representatives concerning collection feedback to SAC. [redacted]

[redacted] The P-989 report will be changed to include geographic coordinates of payload turn-on and turn-off. The NDF is in the process of finding the best way to acquire this information and provide it to SAC.

b. The POPPY TOG will be hosted by the NDF on Tuesday, 25 November at 0830 in room 2W087.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

[redacted]

b. LOW ORBITORS:

(1) Mission 7340 - Two calibrations scheduled to determine operability of the FTR receiver.

(2) Missions 7340, 7341, 7342 - Tasking scheduled to exploit known/potential signals associated with [redacted]

(3) Missions 7338, 7341, 7342 - Coverage of Laptev Sea in support of special collection mission.

3. Mission Data Update:

[redacted]

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4. Trips/TDY: Nothing to report.



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CHIEF, NDF

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

1 December 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 22-28 NOVEMBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

[Redacted]

b. The POPPY TOG was hosted by the NDF on 25 November. The highlight of the meeting was a briefing by NRL on mission 7107 payload health which summarized the results of the recent engineering evaluation. Barring a major catastrophe, NRL estimates a useful system life extending through CY-76.

[Redacted]

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

[Redacted]

25X1

b. LOW ORBITOR: Angola has been added as a target for coverage approximately twice per week to search for Soviet equipment that might be introduced in that area.

3. Mission Data Update:

[Redacted]

~~EARPOP~~

25X1

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b. POPPY [redacted]

25X1

(1) [redacted] temporarily terminated operations on 24 November for [redacted] Normal operations will resume on 19 December.

25X1

(2) The Delta payload pulse width and cross-talk anomalies have not recurred in approximately two weeks.

4. Trips/TDY: Nothing to report.

[redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4
SS-5
SS-6
SS-7

[redacted]

[redacted] ~~BARPOP~~

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25X1

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THE NRO STAFF

10 December 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 29 NOV - 5 DEC 75

1. Meetings/Discussions:

a.

25X1

~~EARPOP~~

[Redacted]

b. POPPY [Redacted]

25X1

On 1 December, NRL recommended turning off one of the data transmitters on 7107A to conserve power. The NDF does not concur because turning off one of the three data transmitters would severely restrict tasking flexibility, and because there is no guarantee that the transmitter could be turned back on if it were to be needed. Instead, the NDF has agreed to reduce the power drain by redesigning the task groups. This action assures SORS guidance/tasking alignment and a power drain IAW available sunlight.

c. P-989:

On 3 December, TSgt Merkey attended a briefing presented by Dr. Hamilton of ASD/I and Col. Quigley of DIA on program 989 timeliness reporting after a funding cut.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

[Redacted]

25X1

b. POPPY - POPPY was tasked to cover the Atlantic Ocean transit of Seacontrol Group Six, which is returning from Exercise Ocean Safari. This requirement will terminate 11 December 1975.

c. P-989 - Mission 7340: [Redacted] for the period 9-14 December;

25X1
25X1

[Redacted] Missions 7338/7341/7342: Tasking for scheduled for 11 December;

25X1

[Redacted] Missions 7340/7341/7342: Coniunction tasking for [Redacted] terminated on 5 December 1975.

25X1

3. Mission Data Update:

[Redacted] ~~EARPOP~~
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a. POPPY, [redacted] resumed operations temporarily while a computer required for [redacted] was being required. Operations were terminated again on 4 December and will recommence approximately 31 December.

[redacted]

[redacted]

25X1

[redacted]

4. Trips/TDY: Nothing to report.

[redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4 ✓
SS-5
SS-6
SS-7

[redacted]

[redacted] ~~EARPOP~~

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GORY 5B7 DECLASSIFY ON IMP OF 1

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THE NRO STAFF

15 December 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NDF WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 6-12 DECEMBER 1975

1. Meetings/Discussions:

a. During the week of 6-12 December, NDF personnel attended meetings as follows:

9 Dec - Lt.Col. Cain and LCdr Beckham attended briefings on DSCS, [redacted] LCdr Beckham also attended the [redacted] ELINT Study briefing and a SORS meeting. [redacted] attended the [redacted] ELINT Study briefing. [redacted] also attended the [redacted] briefing. [redacted] briefed RAdmiral March on 989 and [redacted] Capabilities.

11 Dec - [redacted] attended the [redacted] ELINT Study briefing^{25X1} and subsequent discussions of [redacted] System Capability at National Center 1. [redacted] attended the [redacted] ELINT Study briefing presented at the SOC.

[redacted]

[redacted]

d. [redacted] presented a briefing on general mission capabilities of P-989s and [redacted] to RAdmiral March, CNSG, on 9 December. The Admiral has requested a follow-on briefing on [redacted] sometime after 1 January.

25X1

e. The NDF participated in discussions with SAC and NSA concerning the area in which to conduct the next [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] BARPOP

25X1

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GORY 5B2 DECLASSIFY ON IMP DET.

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scenario. The area contained between [redacted] has been agreed upon as the best area, given that COMINT information is not available. The date will be 15 January - 15 February. 25X1

f. The November mission 7107 Engineering Evaluation indicated that power conservation measures would be required to insure a continued useful life for the Alfa payload. Specifically, a reduction in both power drain and duty cycle is required when available sunlight for battery recharge drops below 80 percent. The NDF is presently building new task groups for all payloads which will match the power drain to available sunlight and insure tasking/SORS guidance alignment. These new groups should be available for use by 1 January.

g. On 12 December, representatives from NRL, NSA, NSG [redacted] and the NDF met at Ft. Meade to discuss duty cycle constraints and decide on a course of action. NRL advised that the maximum allowable duty cycle for 7107A would decrease from 158 min per day on 15 December 1975 to 72 min per day on 15 December 1976. (The actual duty cycle as of 12 December 1975 was approximately 168 min per day; however, the available sunlight was above 80 percent). It was therefore decided to take the following steps effective immediately: 25X1

- (1) Initiate reset of the Alfa payload one additional minute above that which is in use for the other payloads.
- (2) Delete tasking on all revs that can be identified ahead of time as probably non-productive.
- (3) Do not task the Alfa payload on revs during which it does not rise more than 10 degrees above the ground stations field-of-view.
- (4) Effective with the closure of [redacted] (21 Dec 75), [redacted] will be commanded/collected by only one ground site per rev.

These actions should provide a comfortable pad between maximum allowable and actual duty cycle for approximately the first quarter of 1976. At this time the success of the power measures will be evaluated and further action taken as necessary.

2. Tasking/Tasking Changes:

a. LOW ORBITOR -

(1) Mission 7341 - Tasked for ESP support of [redacted] at [redacted] 25X1
25X1

~~TOP SECRET~~

(2) Mission 7340 - [redacted] tasking changed to eliminate [redacted] which have been unproductive.

25X1
25X1

(3) Missions 7338/7341/7342 - Tasked in support of special SAC mission over Barents Sea.

(4) Mission 7342 - Tasked in support of the USS Kitty Hawk's return trip from Pearl Harbor to San Diego.

[redacted]

25X1

3. Mission Data Update:

a. LOW ORBITOR - Mission 7338 intelligence collection mission will terminate on 15 December 1975.

[redacted]

25X1

d. POPPY, [redacted] - The planned schedule of events pertaining to POPPY continuation is as follows:

25X1

(1) POPPY operations at [redacted] will terminate 21 December 1975 to make equipment available for [redacted] implementation.

[redacted] ~~EARPOP~~

25X1

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(2) [redacted] will terminate operations as of 31 March as previously scheduled.

(3) POPPY operations at [redacted] will be implemented in early April 1976.

(4) [redacted] POPPY operations will continue indefinitely with a two week break in late April 1976 for system upgrade.

25X1

(5) The [redacted] POPPY installation will utilize equipment removed from [redacted]

[redacted]

CHIEF, NDF

cc: SS-4 ✓

SS-5 [redacted]

SS-6

SS-7

[redacted] ~~EARPOP~~

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