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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20331

1 April 1968

SCSS

BYE 69203-68

Space Launch Data

SCG (General Ferguson)

1. Two space reconnaissance missions were orbited over the Sino-Soviet complex in March 1968 to obtain photographic data as follows:

a. Program 110 (GAMBIT CUBED):

Mission 4312 was launched on 13 March 1968 for a 10-day mission and was successfully recovered on 23 March 1968. This was the first successful flight since mid-December 1967 because of failure to recover the capsule for Mission 4311 in January 1968. Initial readout indicates that the film product was of a quality equal to the best of the GAMBIT series. Among the targets programmed for coverage were North Korea (search for the Pueblo) and North Vietnam (Haiphong harbor). Intelligence sources report that the Pueblo was located by this mission at Najin, North Korea. The computers indicate that a total of 2291 targets were covered; however, the actual target readout from processing is expected to be lower because of the effect of cloud coverage. In the Stellar Index Camera area, which is used for target location, the terrain camera failed on orbit four. The cause of this failure has not been determined.

b. Program 846 (CORONA J):

Mission No. 1046 was launched on 14 March 1968 for a 16-day mission. After 8 days on orbit, the first capsule was successfully recovered on 22 March 1968 and the second capsule on 30 March 1968 (8 days). A seven-and-one-half day synchronous orbit was selected to provide repetitive coverage of selected areas of interest. Although the results of the missions have not been reported, it was considered to be successful. Mapping and charting were allocated 15.9% of the film in the first capsule and 13.3% in the second.

FORGING MILITARY SPACEPOWER

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2. For SIGINT, one P-11 Subsatellite was placed in orbit:

a. Program 989 (P-11 Subsatellite):

Missions 7322 (LAMPAN) and 7323 (SAMPAN) were successfully launched as piggy back on the above Program 846 Agena (paragraph 1b) on 14 March 1968. Each of these payloads are contained in a single P-11 subsatellite. Reporting to date indicates that a malfunction occurred in the telemetry subsystem and that the required data is not being received. The exact cause of failure is not known. Efforts are continuing to correct this problem. Two other P-11 subsatellites on orbit (Mission 4409 and Mission 4412) are continuing to obtain useful data:

Mission 4409 (SAVANT)	DC	61, 66, 71, 76, 165.2, 181 and 240 MHZ
Mission 4412 (TIVOLI)	DC	100 MHZ - 4,000 MHZ
Mission 7322 (LAMPAN)	GS	1000 MHZ - 2000 MHZ
Mission 7323 (SAMPAN)	GS	2000 MHZ - 4000 MHZ

b. Program 770C (POPPY):

Five vehicles continue to operate in the following frequency ranges:

Mission 2701	GS	[redacted]
Mission 2704	EOB	

50X1

c. Program 770A (Multi Group):

The multi-payload vehicle (Missions 7231, 7163, and 7232) is reported to be operating successfully.

MG 3	All	250 MHZ - 4200 MHZ
	EOB	2604 MHZ - 3215 MHZ

3. The following space launches are scheduled for April 1968:

a. Program 110 (GAMBIT CUBED). Mission 4313 is scheduled for launch on 16 April 1968 for a 10-day mission.

b. Program 846 (CORONA J-3). Mission 1103 is scheduled for launch on 24 April 1968 for a normal 15-day mission.

DAVID H. BARGER, Colonel, USAF
Director of Ballistic and Space Systems
DCS/Systems

FACT SHEET

March 1968

1. Program 110 (GAMBIT CUBED) - High Resolution Spotting System

Mission No: 4312
Launch Complex: SLC-4

Booster: Titan IIIB/Agena
Camera: 160 Inch Focal Length
Capsule: One
Film: 5000 feet

a. Launched: 13 March 1968, 1550 EST
b. Recovered: 23 March 1968, 1943 EST
c. Orbital parameters:

Apogee:	236.4 NM
Perigee:	73.9 NM
Inclination:	99.88 degrees
Period:	90.1 minutes

2. Program 846 (CORONA J) - Broad Coverage System

Mission No:
Launch Complex: SLC-1

Boosters: LTAT/Agena
Camera: Two 24-Inch Focal Length
Capsules: Two
Film: 15000 feet

a. Launched:
b. 1st Recovery:
c. 2nd Recovery:
d. Orbital parameters:

Apogee:	218 NM
Perigee:	100 NM
Inclination:	83 degrees
Period:	90.37 minutes

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