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SORS 10./164  
24 May 1972

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD  
SIGINT COMMITTEE  
SIGINT OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE  
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

SUBJECT: Mission Guidance for SIGINT Satellite Mission  
7338

The SIGINT OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (SORS) recommends the following mission guidance for SIGINT Satellite Mission 7338:

I. It is requested that Mission 7338 collect Electronic Order of Battle (EOB) data and ELINT search/surveillance data in that order and to acquire ocean surveillance data whenever practicable. Collection efforts should be directed to update EOB data bases on both routine and time-critical bases, to search for signals from as yet unidentified emitters and to conduct ELINT surveillance of radars and other emitters associated with the operational use of Soviet and Peoples Republic of China (PRC) weapon systems.

A. Collection emphasis should generally be placed on the following geographic areas in priority order:

1. The USSR and Eastern Europe [ ] east longitude, and missile and electronic test sites in the Peoples Republic of China (PRC).

2. The remainder of the USSR and PRC; North Korea, Southeast Asia including Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and the Middle East.

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3. Communist Bloc countries other than those listed above, India, Pakistan, Burman, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

B. Conduct collection operations to acquire routine EOB data in accordance with the priorities for EOB radio frequency coverage contained in current USIB Guidance for the SIGINT NRP

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C. ELINT Search/Surveillance

1. Conduct search operations against high priority

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II. TIME-CRITICAL ELINT DATA - These data, because of intelligence value and/or perishable nature, require frequent collection access and expedited (less than 24 hours after intercept) processing and reporting during certain situations such as crises, ocean surveillance and strike support.

A. During these special situations, time-critical ELINT data needs may necessitate rapid redirection of Mission 7338 to provide temporary emphasis on particular target areas and/or signals. The NRO and the NSA may make adjustments in collection and processing priorities to acquire, process and report time-critical ELINT data based on direct requests from any SORS Members in accordance with the following criteria:

1. The purpose of the request must be consistent with this mission guidance.
2. The geographic areas and target emitters for desired coverage must be selected from those contained in this mission guidance.

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3. Collection shall be requested for no more than 14 days.

4. The initiator of the special request must specify desired processing and reporting procedures.

B. The NRO will notify all SORS Members by message within 24 hours of the implementation of time critical mission guidance and will provide the following information.

1. The requestor and the rationale for the request for time critical mission guidance.

2. The target areas and emitters for which coverage is desired.

3. Requested processing/reporting procedures.

4. Impact on existing operations.

C. The SORS will subsequently review this matter and will provide appropriate mission guidance.

### III. PROCESSING AND REPORTING

A. Routine processing and reporting of EOB and ELINT surveillance data should permit reporting to users within 24 hours from the time of intercept. The DIA will advise the NSA of those emitters which should be processed and reported for routine EOB purposes.

B. In times of crisis, hostilities, or other time critical situations, processing and reporting will be required within 3 to 24 hours for specified areas and emitters.

IV. The SORS requests that it be kept fully informed of the operational status and intercept success of Mission 7888 on a fortnightly basis.

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V. The SORS requests that NSA product reporting of data from this mission be readily identifiable as having originated from intercepts by Mission 7338.



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