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14 Feb 69

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MCL

SUBJECT: Designation of MCL as the KH-10 Photographic Reconnaissance  
Satellite System

The NRO intends to make formal announcement of the MCL DORIAN system in the TALENT-KEYHOLE community, to be designated KH-10. The initial announcement will alert the user community to the capability to be provided by MCL and will include sufficient detail on the camera system to enable the eventual users of MCL photography to plan for submitting their VHR photographic intelligence requirements and for exploiting DORIAN imagery when the system becomes operational.

The NRO will announce the KH-10 to CIA and DIA users. As in the case of previous systems, after initial announcement NPIC will generate a more detailed camera system description containing information which is relevant and necessary from a user viewpoint. NPIC will work closely with whomever you may designate within the Systems Office during generation of the camera manual, and will obtain MCL Program Office concurrence before publishing.

The attached proposed KH-10 system description, which has been discussed informally between Lt Colonel Loret and Colonel Knelle, is being forwarded for Systems Office concurrence and/or comments. As you will note, no distinction between manned and unmanned MCL will be made at this time, nor will the MCL [redacted] capability be revealed under the TK system. It is recognized that the additional information on manned versus unmanned, and [redacted] capabilities will have to be made known to a broad segment of the user community before operations start.

Please have the technical data reviewed for accuracy and forward any comments or proposed changes to us by March 10, along with identification of the Systems Office point of contact to work together with NPIC in generating the more detailed KH-10 camera system manual.

Lt Col Loret/SAFSLO/55674/14Feb69/ams

Copies: SAFSLO  
SAFSL Chron  
SCG Rd  
Gen Berg

JAMES T. STEWART  
Major General, USAF  
Vice Director, MCL Program

1 Attachment  
KH-10 System Description

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KH-10 System Description

Mission Data

Orbit: 80-187 NM; 70-230 min-max  
Inclination: 90°, 80°-100° min-max  
Repeating Orbit: 7.5 days, nominal  
Access: 80° N to 80° S  
Perigee Latitude: 55° N, nominal  
Velocity: 4.25 NM/sec  
V/H Range: 0.0175 - 0.0615 radians/sec

Camera System

Primary Purpose: Technical Intelligence  
Type: Frame  
Resolution: [REDACTED] on axis at 80 NM  
Coverage: 9100' on axis at nadir  
Stereo Limits: Pitch: 16° forward; 24° aft; Roll: ± 37°  
Image Format: 9.4 inches diameter, circular

Lens

Type: Ross Telephoto  
Focal Length: [REDACTED]  
Lens Aperture: 70 inches  
Relative Aperture: [REDACTED]  
Half Field Angle: 0.54°  
Full Field Angle: 1.08°  
Mirror Diameter: 70 inches (circular)

Shutter

Type: Focal plane  
Speed: 40 inches/sec  
Exposure: .0025, .0036, .0050, .0070,  
.0100, .0140, .0200, .0400 seconds  
Orientation: + 111°  
Platen Rotation: + 60°

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Attachment 1

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Focus

Automatic: + 0.002 inches  
Range: 0.1 inches  
Steps: 50

Primary Film

Width: 9.5 inches  
Type: 3404 Equivalent  
Estar Thin Base  
Exposure Index = 6  
Load: Approximately 12,400 frames

Secondary Film

Width: 9.5 inches  
Type: SO 121 (Color)  
SO 180 (Infrared)  
3401 (Hi-speed Black & White)  
3404 Equivalent or Selected Emulsion  
Load: 600 frames each of 121, 180, 3401  
1200 frames of selected emulsion

Data Available for Exploitation

Complete MCD, to include:

Ephemeris	Attitude Data
Target Information	Calibration Data
Scale Information	Date Block Information
Camera Data	(Back Up Only)

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