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CORONA

27 March 1964

#1400040920

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance
SUBJECT: KH-4 Satellite Schedule for April

Attached for the information and reference of COMOR is a memorandum on the above subject for the Chairman of the United States Intelligence Board for resolution by such means as he determines.

James Q. Reber
James Q. Reber
Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

Attachment:
Subject paper:

[REDACTED]

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MEMORANDUM FOR Chairman, United States Intelligence Board
SUBJECT KH-4 Satellite Schedule for April

1. A review of recent satellite photo reconnaissance shows that both packages of a very good KH-4 (1004-J) were recovered on 18 and 21 February, respectively, [REDACTED]

2. There is a requirement for satellite photographic search coverage of the Sino-Soviet Bloc at the rate of about once per month. KH-4 Mission 1003-J was scheduled and launched on 24 March to meet the requirement for March but failed to orbit.

3. The standby KH-4 vehicle, 9064-M (a single package) can be launched seven days after notice. We are advised that the next [REDACTED] may be available on or about 24 April. [REDACTED]

4. COMOR has considered whether in the light of the requirement and these events and circumstances, a request should be made to proceed with launching 9064 and not to wait until 24 April for a J mission.

5. Recommendation*

a. That the NRO be requested to launch a KH-4 (9064) as soon as feasible. This CORONA launching would be against normal CORONA search requirements.

b. That the NRO be prepared to launch a KH-4 within 30 days after a above assuming it is successful. If a is not successful, NRO should launch another KH-4 as soon as possible.

*The CIA and State Department believe that, in view of the excellent coverage achieved by 1004-J (estimated 53 per cent of the Soviet Union and 23 per cent of China with useable photography) and the numerous targets covered by [REDACTED] there is not now an overriding

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intelligence need to launch the 9064 standby early in April. They feel that it would be best to preserve 9064 as a standby and they recommend that instead a J mission should be launched as scheduled in April.

James Q. Reber

James Q. Reber

Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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