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Copy [REDACTED]
24 December 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Projects

SUBJECT: Photo Reconnaissance Systems Report No. 20

I. CORONA

A. Accomplishments

1. Mission 1108 Evaluation

The [REDACTED] message for Mission 1108-1 stated that "instances of image smear (scan direction) and severe out-of-focus imagery are apparent intermittently throughout the mission". To the user community, the word "severe" used in this context usually means that the out-of-focus condition is evident at 7X and above. A Project Office representative viewed examples from Mission 1108 and found that the out-of-focus could be detected only at 25X or above. The NPIC records (including the [REDACTED] indicate that this is really an out-of-focus band about one inch wide across the entire frame and appears approximately 12 inches from the take-up side. These bands are present only on frames three and four of each pass. The Project Office representative's opinion is that the word "severe" is a bit harsh for describing the conditions that exist. Both the [REDACTED] and the coordinated PI statement indicate "soft imagery", seen only at 50X and above, from the forward-looking camera.

As a part of this review, it was learned that the Director of NPIC has been provided the following statements:

- a. Both 1108-1 and -2 are about 85% cloud free.
- b. The PI suitability ranges from fair to good. The reduction in the scale because of higher-than-normal mission altitude (after pass D40) reduced the effectiveness of this mission.

Declassified and Released by the N R [REDACTED]
In Accordance with E. O. 12958
on NOV 26 1997

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c. The SO-242 color record looks good; however, it generally appears slightly underexposed. The color balance is good, and the material is sharp and in focus. No static or fog traces were noted on the material.

2. 1108/CR-9 recovery was successful (21 December) after a total mission of 17 days. Last two days were devoted to utilizing 800 feet of color film in 14 foreign and one domestic operation. The total accomplished photographic footage for the mission was approximately 15,700' (fwd-looking) and 15,400' (aft-looking); the aft-looking camera had 300 feet less than the fwd because of the additional thickness of the color film.

B. Problems

1. Dr. "A" data on CR-11. Westover has reduced the UTB film flatness from HIVOS Dr. "A" tests and has forwarded the results to Itek. Itek is key punching the data for computer analysis. Initial correlated data may be available by 26 December with a preliminary report expected during the week of 29 December.

2. Switch Programmer. Analysis is continuing on this anomaly. Fortunately the erratic behavior of the switch programmer in the automatic mode was able to be handled operationally by real time commanding.

C. Projected Status

1. CR-9. Mission 1108 PET at NPIC, 13-15 January.
2. CR-10. Pre-chamber preps.
3. CR-11. Block preps.
4. CR-12. Chamber complete; retrieval in process.
5. CR-13. Functional testing.

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*****NOTICE OF REMOVED PAGES*****

Pages 3 through 7 are not provided because their full text does not contain CORONA, ARGON, LANYARD programmatic information.