

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN  
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

For your information:

Dr. McLucas M

Dr. Naka \_\_\_\_\_

Col. Allen JA



24 June 1969

Please return to Dr. Naka for file.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Approval by Higher Authority of Two SR-71 Overflights

On 20 June 1969, higher authority approved the JCS proposal dated 12 June 1969 (BYE 78167-69) and the 303 Committee endorsement of two SR-71 overflights of North Korea to be flown during June 1969. (See minutes of the 303 Committee meeting of 17 June 1969, BYE 12,133-69.) - *Item 1 attached.*

*Frank M. Chapin*  
Frank M. Chapin

Distribution

- Mr. Mitchell
- Mr. Packard
- Mr. Johnson
- Mr. Helms

BYE 12,134-69

*(Series A, cy 9)*

~~TOP SECRET~~HANDLE VIA BUREAU  
PERSONNEL SYSTEM ONLY

-2-

*Excerpt from 303 Committee minutes of  
17 June 1969.*

1. Aerial Reconnaissance of North Korea (BYE 78167/69)

a. Mr. Packard strongly supported the JCS proposal for SR-71 overflights of North Korea, citing the need for additional accurate information on North Korean order of battle communications and deployment of forces, particularly the current locations of a North Korean armored division and two North Korean submarines. He conceded that such overflights are provocative, but there is slight chance of the North Koreans being able to intercept them by either aircraft or surface-to-air missiles. He noted that there had been no North Korean public reaction to three similar overflights during 1968, the last such missions flown over North Korea.

b. Mr. Helms commented that the Critical Collection Problems Committee (CCPC) of the USIB is currently studying existing intelligence gaps and requirements on North Korea and is due to submit its report to USIB on 10 July 1969. He favored proceeding with the two double-track overflights proposed for June and to consider additional such missions after review and assessment of results. The other members agreed with this approach.

c. The Chairman stated that he would obtain final approval from higher authority before these two missions are undertaken.

BYE 12,133/69

~~Copy 5 of 5 copies~~*(extract, para 1)*  
69 50