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BISON.
HANDLE VIA BYEMAN CHANNELS ONLY
GAMBIT

SUBJECT: ~~GAMBIT LAUNCH OPTIONS~~

KWBISON FOR L. MCCHRISTIAN; FROM J. HILL [REDACTED]

1. THE COMMUNITY IS IN THE PROCESS OF EXAMINING VARIOUS GAMBIT LAUNCH OPTIONS TO DETERMINE THEIR ABILITY TO SATISFY INTELLIGENCE NEEDS. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE ABILITY OF 1981 GAMBIT FLIGHTS TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC (AGRICULTURAL) AND DRUG INTELLIGENCE. AT LEAST TWO GAMBIT OPTIONS ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

A. SPRING FLIGHT OF GAMBIT 4351 - INITIALLY FLY THE VEHICLE AT 145NM TO EMPHASIZE AGRICULTURE AND DRUG TARGETS. THEN DECREASE THE ALTITUDE AND FLY THE REMAINDER OF THE MISSION TO COLLECT HIGH RESOLUTION TARGETS.

B. SPRING FLIGHT OF GAMBIT 4352 DM - SAME MISSION AND PROFILE AS ABOVE.

2. WOULD YOU RECOMMEND FLYING THE MISSIONS AS ABOVE? WHAT WOULD THE DURATION OF COVERAGE BE AT EACH ALTITUDE? WHAT ARE THE PROS AND CONS OF EACH OPTION ABOVE?

3. COMIREX PLANS TO PROVIDE A TARGET DECK SOON SO THAT SIMULATIONS OF EACH CAN BE RUN.

REVW: 22 JULY 2000

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#0547

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NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DECLASSIFIED BY: C/IART
DECLASSIFIED ON: 10 JANUARY 2013

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