

~~MANUAL FOR OVERVIEW CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY~~

12 May 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: The Comments on Land Panel
Recommendations Pertinent to a
[redacted] Readout Satellite System

1. I heartily endorse the conclusions and in general support the recommendations that the Land Panel has made concerning a [redacted] readout system that can make information available to the interpretation community via relay satellite within the time span [redacted]

2. Following are comments which I believe should be considered in such decision-making discussions as may be forthcoming:

a. It is important that any [redacted] readout system have the capability to acquire imagery of almost any specified point within the Sino-Soviet area on a daily basis. This is implied by Dr. Land in his description of capabilities but is not stated directly.

b. In order to have maximum chance of achieving savings across the whole spectrum of intelligence collection, the [redacted] system that is developed should be capable of responding to warning/indications requirements, crisis needs (as described by Dr. Land), world-wide surveillance of such targets as may be required by theater or naval commanders, and routine day-to-day needs for imagery of Bloc targets.

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The latter can be considered the bread-and-butter reason for a [redacted] system and perhaps ultimately would prove to be the truly great step forward. Because I believe a [redacted] system should have these multi-purpose capabilities, I feel that a go-ahead decision should include careful consideration of ways and means of incorporating characteristics which would enable it to replace other reconnaissance assets and not merely become an "add-on".

c. I note that the Panel endorses a photo sensitive solid array imagery transducer to the exclusion of all others. While I cannot judge this technical choice, I feel it is important to point out that reliability and long life are essential but that there is some disagreement within the R&D community on the solid array as the best way to achieve this.

3. While the comments expressed above are my own, insofar as they pertain to intelligence requirements, they parallel closely the views of COMIREX.



William A. Tidwell
Chairman
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

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OFFICE OF THE

D/I *File*

DATE: 13 May 69

TO: Jack

This might come up at
DCI's MORNING MEETING

FROM: Ed

SUBJECT: Tidwell's Comments on Land Panel
Recommendations on [redacted]

REMARKS:

Attached are Tidwell's comments on the
recommendations from the Land Panel.

Bill goes somewhat further in endorsing
a [redacted] system than I would. He would
have it do:

- Warning/indications
- Crisis needs
- World-wide surveillance for theater
and naval commanders
- Routine needs for imagery in Communist
countries

Actually, Bill raises some question about
the transducer which DDS&T and Land are pushing.
This obviously is what Land really is asking
a decision on.

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