MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Launch of Mission 1018-5

1. The attached Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance (COMOR) memorandum on the subject is circulated for United States Intelligence Board (USIB) consideration of the Recommendation contained in paragraph 4, thereof.

2. This item has been placed on the USIB agenda for the meeting of 10 March 1965.

JAMES E. LAY, JR.
Executive Secretary

Attachment
MEMORANDUM FOR: United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: Launch of Mission 1018-J

1. COMOR is advised by the (S) NRO that 1018-J is scheduled for launch on 15 March. Such launch does not provide adequate time for COMOR to assess fully the results of 1017-J, both buckets to be available by 13 March.

2. COMOR, like the (S) NRO, is aware of the injunction on (S) NRO successfully to acquire two J buckets per month. However, COMOR believes that it would not be prudent to sacrifice the possible inputs from the assessment of 1017-J in order to acquire within the March period one or both of 1018-J's packages, presumably in an effort to make up for the deficit resulting because of no J recoveries in February.

3. The (S) NRO has advised of the highly favorable climatological situation in the USSR at this season. The recommendation set forth below does not ignore this.

4. Recommendation: That the Board request the (S) NRO to reschedule 1018-J to a point later in the month, not earlier than 20 March.

James Q. Abbot
Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance