THE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

DEC 10 1963



He Me Manua has

seen this, how mut

shown it to the President,

and says that he does

not plan to. He knows

that you are getting it

and may show it to

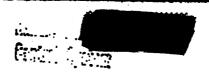
the President. You should

use your judgment on

this latter point since

the book is quite

"elementare."



uncontected

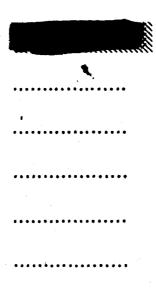
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Attached is a capsule summary of the NRP (75) which you may wish to leave with the President for his in formation.



Handle Via Indicated Controls



WARNING

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This document contains information referring to Projects:

OXCART IDEALIST



CORONA





UNITED STATES OVERFLIGHT OF DENIED AREAS

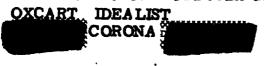
The following summery outlines the present status of provisions for the collection of intelligence information by overlight of foreign territory. Included are descriptions of the capabilities being developed and the arrangements that have been made for supervising and managing this effort on a national basis.

Overflight by the United States of foreign territory ("Ganied areas") is conducted by means of special recommissance aircraft and catellites.

The U-2 is at present the aircraft most frequently used for such photographic reconnaissance. Over 60 U-2 photographic missions were flown in the past year, exclusive of regular surveillance missions over Cubs. Prequent missions are flown over Communist Chine; most of the rest of the 60-plus missions were in the South ricet Asian crea.

Satellites are now the only source of intelligence photography over the Soviet Union and over its peripheral neighbors in Europe. Hispiens about once a menth photograph a large fraction of the Soviet land ness; almost about Soviet Union is covered at least once during a year's operation. The satellite system used for this photography - a so-called "broad-coverage" system - photographs a swath about 100 miles wide on the ground, with an aculty or resolution sufficient to identify and locate primary military targets such as missale sites. Ender good conditions, objects and features smaller when 10 feat in dimension can be identified from this photography. This resolution is considerably less than that provided by the lower-flying U-2, but the area that can be covered by this broad-coverage satellite system is very great.

Since recevery of the livet successful recommanisance satellite falls in August 1960, the United Jacobs has conducted 55 successful area coverage photographic missions, which have provided the primary base of United States information concerning foulet 10km and MRM deployment.



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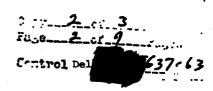
To replace the existing U-2, a new recommaissance circrest is being developed to fly at species of Mach 3.2 at altitudes up to 90,000 feet. This aircrest will operate entirely from bases within the continental United States, assisted by air refueling at strategic points. Special provision has been made to keep the ratar cross-section quite low, which will increase the difficulty of "earny" detection and bostile action. The first flight was made in April 1952. To date, 12 aircraft have been delivered to the flight test site, and over 502 flights have been made totalling 670 hours, with the longest flight being 3 hours, the highest speed achieved being Mach 3.2, and the greatest altitude 70,000 fact. On the basis of progress to date, it is expected that initial operational capability will be reached during 1964.



All film from catelline recommissance missions is recovered by air catch in the Pacific recovery area near Resoli. The typical mission ecomplishes its photography in about four days.

The satellite recommissance effort also contains paylocks devoted to collection of electronic signal intelligence, which is relayed electronically from the satellite so a network of tracking stations. Lifetime on orbits of signal intelligence satellites varies from/

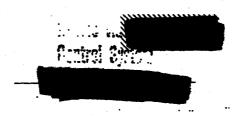




decruse of the extreme sensitivity of reconnaissance over denied areas, the entire effort has been organized on a national basis under stringent security rules defined and supported by eppropriate national policy. As part of this policy, steps have been taken to minimize public spaculation concerning reconncisance. and to avoid any official confirmation that the United States is canaged in such activities. With the exception of previous exposures concerning U-2 caployment, and previous official acknowlediment that the United States was actively engaged in development of catallite reconucissance capability (in connection with the project previously identified as SANUS), all development is being carried out on a covert ("black") basis requiring centrally controlled special clearances for each witting individual. In addition to evoiding any official confirmation that the United States is currently collecting actual overflight intolligence information, every effort is made to protect, through the most stringent security procedures, any knowledge of the kind and quality of the results which have been obtained.

To avoid public speculation about or official confirmation of the overflight effort, even the name of the responsible ergonization - the National Recommunistance Cifics - in SECRET. By agreement between the Socretary of Defense and the Firector of Control Intelligence, the Rathenul Reconneissance Office is critiblished as an operating agency of the Department of Defense, with numbership from the several Services and Agencies whose resources are involved. The Under Secretary of the Air Force is the Director of the Astional Reconspissence Office. The aircraft critort is largely delegated to the Central Intalligence Agency, with appropriate Assistance from the Papertment of the Air Force. The satellite reconnaissance effort is carried out by specially organized units of the Deportment of the Air Force, with security and other assistance from units of the Central Intelligence Agency. Assistance in the field of signal intelligence comes from specially organized units of the Department of the Mayy.

All intelligence collection requirements are established by the United States Intelligence Board. All photographic results are mude available to the intelligence community through the

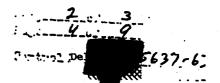


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Mational Photographic Interpretation Center and the Defense Intelligence Agency. Signal intelligence results are made available through the Mational Security Agency. Basic operating policy and supervision is provided to the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office by the Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence. Higher level review and supervision is provided on a close and continuing basis by the 5412 Special Group of the National Security Council, and by the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

The entire effort is substantial were devoted to satellite reconyear 1964, of which ncissence) and has produced extremely important intelligence results. The security considerations associated with the effort have masked impressive technical accomplishments. The achievement of custained level flight at over Nech 3 in a titanism sirereft involves numerous exceptional technical advances. The sarcllite accomplishments are equally impressive, and include successful development of orbit-adjust copability, including planned de-orbit of the entire vehicle in a remote ocean area efter completion of the recommissance mission and recovery of the film. In addition, the photographic results obtained from altitudes of approximately 100 neutical miles have exceeded the original design specifications and represent an outstanding technical achievement. These latter results are illustrated by the following photographs obtained of





5 photographs