

[REDACTED]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

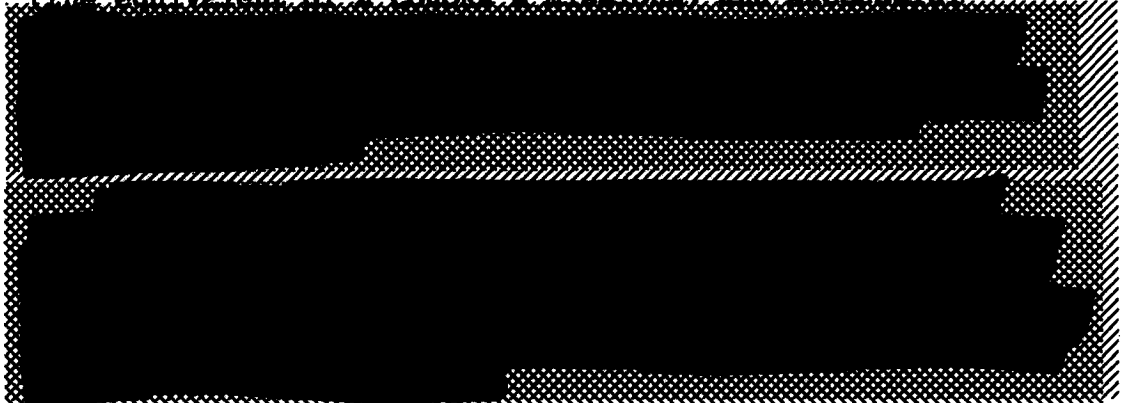
2 FEB 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR The Chairman, President's Foreign  
Intelligence Advisory Board

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] National Reconnaissance Program Status

This brief report summarizes the significant events and activities in the [REDACTED] National Reconnaissance Program since my last report to the Board on 30 January 1964.

The 1964 record of the (S) NRO shows several important successes marred by some failures. In February we successfully completed the first CORONA J dual recovery mission (the equivalent of 2 CORONA W missions) and successful



The CORONA J mission in February was operated during a period of exceptionally fine weather and provided 6.5 million square miles (nautical) of coverage. Unfortunately, the next 2 CORONA J's, March and April, experienced Agena electrical troubles and were unsuccessful.

As a result of these Agena problems, I directed an intensive investigation into all phases of the CORONA program. This has been conducted by Major General Greer's project office, assisted by the Air Force Space Systems Division personnel and by Aerospace Corporation, which has now been brought into the Agena portion of the CORONA program. Changes to simplify Agena electrical circuits have been made,

AIR FORCE CORONA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] OXCART IDEALIST  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] 6443-20  
[REDACTED]

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order to minimize the possibility of electrical failures.

I have, in addition, undertaken studies to put the CORONA payload [REDACTED] In addition to removing the Agena from orbital operations, such a change would provide flexibilities such as command and orbital adjust which are not possible in the present configuration.

In looking to the future in photographic satellites,

[REDACTED]

In our aircraft programs we are continuing the flight test of the OXCART aircraft. Total flight time is now over 1100 hours. The aircraft have been flown at Mach 3.27 at 81,700 ft. Flights at design speed have been sustained up to 32 minutes. The pilotless drone (TAGBOARD), to be air launched from specially modified A-12 aircraft will be

ARGON CORONA [REDACTED]  
OXCART IDEALIST

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DECLASSIFICATION; 25C DFR 5200.10  
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delivered this month. The first flight with drone attached is scheduled for September. Testing of the drone recovery system is underway at Edwards Air Force Base. One camera system for the aircraft is in flight test. The system for the drone is scheduled for November delivery.

In the IDEALIST program [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

assigned to SAC. Three airplanes have been so modified, with numbers 4 and 5 to be completed on 5 and 8 June, on an accelerated modification schedule. Subsequent modernization will be accomplished in the routine maintenance schedule.

In order to increase our inventory for contingencies, 14 new production 147B drones are scheduled for delivery - 1 in June, 2 in July, 4 in August, 4 in September and 3 in October.

[REDACTED]

for these drones are also on procurement.

As a result of these activities, our ability to meet our commitments and to satisfy requirements has been increased.

[REDACTED]

Brockway McMillan  
Director  
(S) National Reconnaissance Office

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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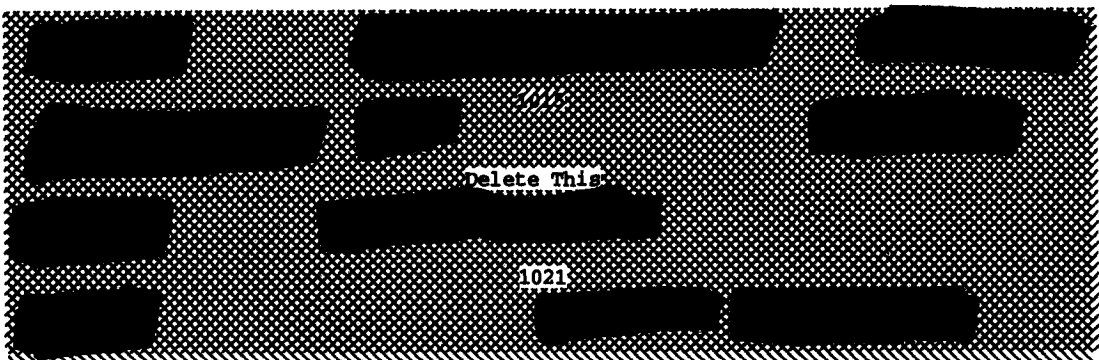
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SCHEDULE CY 64

	<u>J</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>D</u>
CORONA J	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
CORONA Reserve	1			1	1	1	1
ARGON	1		1	(1)	*		



417-THOR	1	1
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\* Spare payloads  
 ( ) Available for launch if required

ARGON CORONA  
 OXCART IDEALIST

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 RELOAD UNIT USE WITH 8200.10  
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