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9 October 1957

PROGRAM FOR AQUATONE COVERAGE OF THE USSR

1. Recent coverage of the USSR by AQUATONE and recent events, such as the test firing of an ICBM and the launch of the earth satellite, have given startling indications of the highly advanced state of the Soviet capability to deliver weapons against the United States, at least in the field of guided missiles.

2. Accordingly, it is of extreme urgency that a broad photographic reconnaissance program be embarked upon designed to cover principal known targets bearing on the Soviet potential threat to National security. These targets bear upon guided missiles, long range air force, [REDACTED] and are listed in Attachment A. In Attachment B, they are arranged in terms of probable operational feasibility.

3. It must be pointed out that there are clearly great possibilities that highly significant targets, unknown to us, bearing upon our principal objectives are hidden in the areas of the Soviet Union where we recommend coverage. We believe that search is essential but that the search must be systematic. Furthermore, we believe that the way to search systematically is by proceeding to the known highest targets in such a way as to explore most likely areas for highly significant but unknown targets. This is illustrated in the revelation of TYURA TAM (suspected but not accurately located previously), [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and so obscured by clouds on the oblique as to be undecipherable), and KRASNOVODSK (a vast radar-type antennae array very likely related to Soviet weaponry; hitherto unknown).

4. It is worthy of note that through penetration to date AQUATONE has covered with usable photography fourteen per cent of the total area of the USSR (one million square miles out of about seven million square miles).

5. In the event that political authorities will permit some activity but less than the total of the program outlined in this paper, it is recommended

HR70-14

TOP SECRET

[REDACTED] 25X1

that permission be sought at least to cover the targets relevant to an appraisal of the Soviet long range heavy bomber program (Category B on Attachment A). In the event that permission can only be granted for limited geographic coverage, then it is recommended that permission be obtained for covering the Urals, which includes VERKHNE NEYVINSKI, KYSHTYM, NIZHNYAYA TURA, SARATOV/ENGELS, KUYBYSHEV, and KAZAN. (The Navy believes that this area should be subordinated to MOLOTOVSK and SEVEROMORSK.)

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**JAMES Q. REBER**  
Chairman  
Ad Hoc Requirements Committee

**Attachments**

- A
- B

**JQR:sw**

**Regular ARC distribution**

*It is noted that the IAC has informed the White House (Killian Com).  
(Kil/Re. 12-4)*

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