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8 January 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Highest Priority Requirements for Missiles

1. On 6 January 1959 the USIB approved recommendations of the CCPC which urged the immediate TALENT coverage of targets essential to closing the gap in our information regarding Soviet deployment, production, and R and D on the ICBM. In pursuance of this, the ARC recommends that targets most essential for immediate coverage should be those relating to deployment and in this regard recommends coverage of Kapustin Yar, Tyura Tam, the Urals railway areas, and the Polyarni Ural area, including the railway net. It is further recommended that insofar as possible (and this applies especially to KY and TT) planning provide for maximum coverage of new territory in addition.

2. The ARC is unable to agree on any order of priority among the foregoing targets recommended because of the fact that it is only by deduction rather than the availability of pertinent information that one can guess where the evidences of deployment may be located. Thus information bearing on Polyarni Ural strongly suggests intensive activity related to ICBM development. Observations at TT and KY have suggested the possibility of rail mobile launching of ICBM's. Thus the interest in the rail networks in the vicinity of Polyarni Ural and the Urals area, the latter highly secure from intelligence observation and close to extensive productive resources. It is the belief of some that re-coverage of KY and TT after the length of time since the last coverage, plus the use of the B configuration, may well give us evidence pointing towards the deployment system to be used for operations.


JAMES Q. REBER
TALENT Control Officer

JQReber:hh:ja

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DD/P (cy 1)
Ops DPD-DD/P (cy 2)
ONI (cy 3)
AFCIN (cy 4)
DPD-DD/P file (cy 5)
DPD-DD/P chrono (cy 6)

HR70-14

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