

22 January 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. R. M. BISSELL, JR.

SUBJECT : Flight Planning Information

1. The target dates for commencing operations are understood to be as close to the following dates as possible:

15th of February 1958 from Atsugi NAS, Japan

25th of February 1958 from Adana, Turkey

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Commencement of operations, it is understood, will be contingent upon the availability of one RAINBOW aircraft each for Detachments B and C. From a review of the camera equipment situation it appears that the "B" camera may not be ready and available for operational use if these operational readiness dates are met. This means we will have to depend upon the A-2 camera system during at least the initial phases of this operation. It would be considered advisable to allow the units to have at least two training missions with the modified "B" camera before putting it to operational use.

2. With regard to your question concerning our views as to which of the Far East missions should be flown first, the following areas are listed in order of their priority taking into consideration weather, priority of the target, and sensitivity relative to protest:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Primary Target</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Time Over Target</u>	<u>Sun Angle</u>
9	Ukraine	SAC	0900 - 1500	20° or more
11	Kamchatka	Guided missiles	0900 - 1500	10° or more
10	Komsomolsk	Product of guided missiles	1000 - 1400	20° or more
12	Vladivostock	Submarine guided missile bases	0900 - 1500	20° or more

All of these areas may be expected to have an average of 5 inches of snow cover. This is considered advantageous from the PI point of view, particularly from an activity or a built-up stage associated with the target.

In the mountainous regions it is possible to expect up to 41 inches of snow. On all of our 23 targets sun angle is not considered to be a deterrent factor during this operation period. Throughout the Far East good photographic weather is expected to deteriorate with the advance of spring. During the planned operational time period we may expect the

NRO review(s) completed.

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general average of good photographic weather to exist approximately 40% of the time.

3. Operations from Adana throughout the area west of the Urals can expect the best weather conditions during the month of April. There should be a general improvement of photographic weather up to the 1st of July. It is generally believed within Operations that the first missions conducted by "B" Detachment should be those staged The following order is recommended:

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Area 8	-	Irkutsk
Area 7	-	Krasnayorsk
Area 13	-	Tyura Tam
Area 3	-	The Urals

In flying the Ural mission we would gain the most advantage if we could conduct this one last and allow the plane to continue on picking up additional targets enroute to Adana, Turkey. Weather conditions, as always, are a factor and should circumstances exist that the weather should open up in the Ural area prior to the completion of the other targets to be covered range is still sufficient to cover those targets in the Urals and The only loss in this case would be the lack of coverage of targets from the Urals to Adana.

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4. It is recommended that the targets to be covered from Adana should be:

Area 1	-	Minsk
Area 2	-	Kapustin Yar
Area 5	-	Valdai
Area 6	-	Malotovsk
Area 4	-	Mozhaysk

5. In accordance with the best technical advice received so far, we are planning to use the yellow filter on most all of our missions varying the aperture ~~supply~~ according to the sun angle. We assume that the policy will remain firm that all film exposed during these missions will be processed by the Eastman Kodak Company.

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Director of Operations

PCS/DCI/PEG:aem

Dist.:

Orig. & addressee
 Cy 2 - Ops subj
 Cy 3 - BI
 Cy 4 - Ops chron