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DCID No. 1 15

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/13¹

COORDINATION OF THE COLLECTION AND EXPLOITATION OF IMAGERY INTELLIGENCE

(Effective 18 May 1976)

Pursuant to Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947, Executive Order ~~12036~~¹²⁰³⁶ and National Security Council Intelligence Directives, a Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX) is hereby established as a standing Director of Central Intelligence Committee with the following mission and functions.²

1. Mission

The mission of the committee, under the general guidance of the Director of Central Intelligence, is to advise, assist and, as directed, act for the Director in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities set forth in NSCIDs 1, 3 and 8 with respect to the collection, processing and exploitation of imagery; to advise the National Foreign Intelligence Board; to assist in coordination within the Intelligence Community the accomplishment of intelligence objectives established by the Director of Central Intelligence in accordance with his priorities; and to promote the effective use of Community imagery collection and exploitation resources and products both at the national and military command levels. The COMIREX is not responsible for providing guidance to tactical reconnaissance assets in direct support of US and Allied forces.

2. Functions

The functions of the committee are:

- a. To recommend to the Director of Central Intelligence and coordinate policies, directives and guidance for the collection, processing and exploitation of imagery.
- b. To maintain a cognizance of plans, programs and practices of overhead reconnaissance³ and the processing and exploitation of derived imagery; and to advise the Director of Central Intelligence of the responsiveness to national needs for intelligence information of existing and potential systems and resources for the collection and exploitation of overhead reconnaissance imagery.

¹This directive supersedes DCID 1/13 effective 1 July 1967.

²For the purposes of this directive, the term "imagery" includes all products of overhead reconnaissance that provide a likeness of any natural or man-made features, objects and activities. This imagery can be acquired through the sensing of the visual or any other segment of the electromagnetic spectrum by sensors, such as panchromatic, infrared and radar. Within the context of this directive, imagery does not include records of communications, radar signals or telemetry data that do not reproduce the likeness of objects on photographic material.

³Overhead reconnaissance specifically includes denied areas, which are defined as all territory and territorial waters claimed by Communist nations; as well as such other areas of priority intelligence interest as may be determined by the Director of Central Intelligence.

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c. To formulate coordinated intelligence guidance for:

- (1) The programming of imagery collection and processing resources;
- (2) Collection mission planning and tasking;

(3)

(4)

The committee shall make appropriate recommendations to ensure the validity and practicality of such guidance in the light of changing national circumstances, the intelligence objectives and priorities established by the DCI, and cost effectiveness and certain risk considerations.

d. To monitor, evaluate and report the status and effectiveness of overhead reconnaissance coverage of defined areas and targets and the timeliness of exploitation reporting of such coverage.

e. To evaluate:

- (1) Imagery products in the exploitation effort in terms of utility, quality, timeliness and cost, and
- (2) The need to change either collection or exploitation guidance accordingly.

f. To coordinate all matters relating to the evaluation, revision, implementation and execution of the National Tasking Plan; and, as appropriate, to maintain cognizance of other policies and plans relating to imagery exploitation.

g. To examine current and planned overhead reconnaissance imagery collection systems and make recommendations, as appropriate, with respect to imagery exploitation requirements, techniques and information handling capabilities, including any specific needs for overseas processing of such imagery for national purposes.

h. To provide the effective interface of research and development on imagery processing and interpretation equipment with projected exploitation activities at the national and departmental levels; and to provide a focal point for the expeditious exchange of information in the interest of ensuring coordinated equipment procurement programs.

i. To make recommendations, advise on and develop the procedures governing the utilization of the products from overhead imagery reconnaissance to include:

- (1) Dissemination;
- (2) Special security controls;
- (3) Provisions for use outside special controls; and

(4) The release or disclosure of such imagery or derived information to be made to foreign governments or international organizations in which the US Government participates.

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3. *Community responsibilities.*

Upon request of the committee chairman, Intelligence Community organizations shall furnish to the committee within established security safeguards particular information or materials needed by the committee and pertinent to its functions.

4. *Composition, organization and rules of procedure*

a. The composition, organization and rules of procedure of the COMIREX are those stated in DCID 1/3.

b. The Chairman of COMIREX, as necessary, shall call upon Intelligence Community organizations engaged in imagery reconnaissance or exploitation under the purview of this directive to provide consultants to assist the committee.

George Bush
Director of Central Intelligence

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