



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

~~TOP SECRET EARPOP~~

IN REPLY REFER TO
OP-092BA/fh
BYE 65809/71
22 JAN 1971

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

Attention: COL MURPHY

Subj: NRO Support to Ocean Surveillance

Ref: (a) CNO BYE 66482/70 of 5 January 1971

1. By reference (a), the Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Intelligence) advised that the NRO offer to test appropriate SIGINT assets to ascertain their applicability to ocean surveillance was accepted with pleasure. Of the options offered, option 4 best met Navy requirements. It was also advised that an optimum period for the conduct of the test was during a period of high activity by the Soviet fleet, normally expected in the April - May time frame.
2. Since reference (a) was written, discussions between representatives of the Navy, the Program C staff, and the NRO have resulted in the definition of a test of STRAWMAN and TRIPOS/SOUSEA during a forthcoming First Fleet exercise - code named ADMIXTURE. This test, to commence on 23 February 1971 off the California coast, appears to offer an opportunity to conduct extended support operations, including distribution of product to the fleet commander. The Navy strongly endorses this evaluation. At this time, it can not be determined that all test objectives outlined in the basic NRO proposal will be met; particularly as these objectives relate to geolocations on large numbers of Soviet units, and rapid dissemination of a product to overseas fleet commanders. On the other hand, it is believed that sufficient objectives will be met to make this exercise well worthwhile.
3. The Navy would be most happy to assist the NRO in any manner necessary in preparing for this test. At the present time, meetings are being held to assure close coordination. It is understood that the NRO will sponsor the requirement for this test at the SORS; the Navy representative will actively support this requirement, and will, if desired, join in the sponsorship.

Copy to:

CNM
OP-09
OP-07

William N. Hatch
WILLIAM N. HATCH
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (INTELLIGENCE)
ACTING

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