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SDWG-M-46



25 November 1968

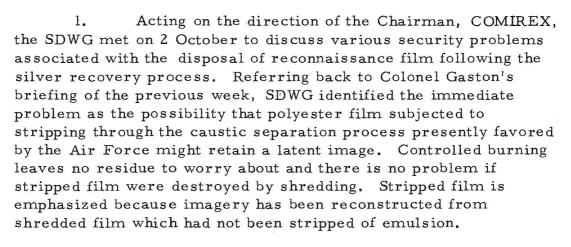
MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Sanitization and Decontrol

Working Group

Special SDWG Meeting on: Latent Imagery and Security Problems

Associated with the Disposal of

Reconnaissance Film



- 2. Concentrating on the stripping process, SDWG next elected to confine itself to the problem within the United States and the handling of DPs. At overseas Recce Tech units stripped film may be burned without running afoul of air pollution authorities. Furthermore, even though laboratory tests were to establish that stripped film could not contain a latent image, the chances are that the baling and return to the U.S. of the polyester base, and arrangement to resell to such potential consumers as paint companies, would not be profitable. The reason for limiting consideration to the DP was based on the fact that ONs are normally stored as part of the permanent reconnaissance library record. Limiting consideration to the DP also removes the problem of the titling. Titling on the ON is embossed but this obviously does not apply to the DPs.
 - 3. The SDWG did establish an order of tasks:

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tests designed to determine whether there is a latent image in film which has been subjected to the normal stripping process.

- b. If the tests show the latent image to exist, SDWG will be provided with a report as to how additional processing might eliminate this hazard. Some courses of action discussed were:
 - (l) destruction of the molecular image in the base through application of UV.
 - (2) use of a double strip process-running the film twice through the caustic solution.
 - (3) in order to insure removal of the subbing, which some feel stripping cannot guarantee, subject the film to a flammable solvent process--this is quite dangerous to personnel.
- c. If at the end of a month no latent images have appeared, SDWG will expect a negative report with precise information as to how far research has been pursued and what other experiments need to be conducted.

 has talked in terms of two man years, to be exhaustive.
- 4. In reply to a suggestion from the Chairman that, if a latent image were to appear, and it would be hard to insure against such appearances, the community should resort to controlled burning, the consensus of the experts was that this represented a disproportionate cost and should not be considered. The Mark Systems Incorporated process and UV treatment is also expensive—about ten times that of just stripping chemically. It would be more economical to subject the stripped film to a very fine shredding process and dispose of it as garbage.
- 5. At the urging of Major Owens, the Chairman agreed that as soon as examples of latent imagery are available SDWG will try and work with the Office of Security to evaluate the security

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6. also noted that if at the end of a					
month no latent imagery has appeared the same corps of experts will					
still be unwilling to agree this is proof that the present stripping					
effectively removes all latent imagery and insures security. Out					
of respect for these uncertainties the Chairman requested that					
during the next month an effort be made to find out from the GSA					
whether there is a real market for the stripped polyester film.					
This question actually can be divided into two parts:					

- a. Is it economically feasible for strip processing facilities to store and turn over rolls of strip polyester base to GSA for successful marketing; or
- b. Should there be a security problem, can GSA market finely shredded stripped film? /Owing to the fact that the polyester film is rapidly replacing tri-acetate, the handling and marketing of the latter was not explored in any depth./

Chairman SDWG

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17 December 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Sanitization and Decontrol Working Group

SUBJECT:

Latent Imagery and Security Problems

Associated with the Disposal of

Reconnaissance Film (SDWG-M-46)

- l. In response to the 2 October 1968 request of the SDWG, the Exploratory Laboratory of NPIC has provided the attached analysis, pertinent to latent imagery and security problems associated with the disposal of reconnaissance film. It is requested that members study report in anticipation of an early meeting on this subject. The Chairman, SDWG notes that the two questions posed in paragraph 6 of SDWG-M-46 are now reduced to one, namely, is there a market for finely shredded stripped film?
- 2. With reference to the meeting of 3 December and for your information:
 - a. advises that Commander Myles has submitted a draft reply to "Clarification of COMIREX-D-2.7/5 for the British" which looks good and CIA plans to transmit to London.
 - b. "Canadian Problems with Sanitization of Mapping Materials" does not appear to be a problem requiring further urgent action.
 - c. The "Request to Downgrade BLACK SHIELD in Target Folders" has been forwarded to the Board, and a reply as to whether this will have been approved by telephone or might require consideration at a USIB meeting should be available on 20 December.
 - d. The question of "Release of Sanitized T-KH Data for Foreign Governments" is still in the hands of the DIA and CIA members.

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	e.	On 11 Decemb	per the Ch	ıairman s	submitted	d a	
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