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HANDLE TALENT -
KEYHOLE CHANNELS
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1.5(c)
3.4(w)(1)

24 August 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Plans for the Handling of
Satellite Photography (CORONA)

1. Operational security matters are handled directly under CIA Operations.
2. Security for the exploitation and use of the film, and information derived therefrom, including all steps from production to the ultimate consumer (analysis and estimating) are handled under a security system entirely separate from Operational Security. This practice (the same in principle as used in the U-2 Program) is designed to effect compartmentation on a strict "must know" basis.
3. The TALENT Security System, designed initially to handle overflight photography, is based on security standards of the highest order in U.S. Security practices. In order to protect the product of satellite photography plans were laid in January of 1959 for a compartment to be known as TALENT-KEYHOLE within the TALENT System in order to provide the most effective handling and



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security procedures and to define and control the minimum number of personnel essential for exploitation and use of information obtained for critical intelligence purposes.

4. The current plan based on that estimate calls for a total of 1370 TALENT-KEYHOLE certifications divided as follows: (In parenthesis below is indicated in each case the number who have already been indoctrinated. This indoctrination means signing a TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Agreement.)

CIA		239 (202)
Deputy Director (Intelligence)	75 (38)	
(Research and Analysis)		
Photographic Intelligence Center	164 (164)	
Army		289 (146)
Navy		100 (65)
U.S.A.F.		679 (154)
SAC	200	
ATIC	50	
AFIC	100	
ACIC	229	
AFCIN	75	
USAF	25	
JCS		15 (15)
OSD		20 (20)
NSA		10 (6)
TOTAL		1352 (608)



5. To obtain a quick look at the film for critical information to be passed to the chiefs of intelligence, the CIA Photographic Intelligence

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1-5 (6)
3-4 (6) (1)

Center (CIA/PIC) is currently operating a joint exercise with the participation of photographic interpreters and substantive specialists from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. The initial production of this effort can be little more than an orientation which will permit more directed exploitation subsequently by the various interpretation units in the U.S. Government (meaning under direction of CIA and the military services). There exist already duplicate copies of the film in the form of either duplicate positive or duplicate negative materials. They have been impounded pending a decision on security.

6. It is already clear from the quantity and the unanticipated high quality of the photography, the scope of coverage, the capability to provide gross (as opposed to technical intelligence) interpretation and the assist provided by the existence of U-2 photography, that the vital use of this material for highly critical responsibilities of the intelligence agencies for national security will require eventually a greater number of certified personnel than now planned, though considerably less than those now in the TALENT System.

7. It is already apparent that this material can move us ahead with great strides in our search for ICBM deployment, target and SAM site identification, geodetic control and, most of all, an informal ^{and} basis for deciding ~~fx~~ where we must next look when possible with better photo

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capability.

8. In summary,

a. A highly secure control system exists for the protection of the satellite product.

b. The security system has been tested for four years without breach.

c. We believe that the plans outlined above are minimal, and based on the "must know" principle.



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