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NPIC/TDS/D-1017-67
14 September 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Development Staff, TDS

THROUGH : Chief, Imagery Systems Branch, DS

SUBJECT : The Air Force's Informal Request That NPIC Provide Some Funds
to Help Pay for Flights Around Cuba by the 665-A Aircraft

[REDACTED]

1. On 31 May 1967, [REDACTED] sent a memorandum (NPIC/OS-85/67) to the Chief, Special Activities Office, DIA requesting that a series of stand-off missions be flown around Cuba with the aircraft being used to test fly the [REDACTED]. We, of TDS, feel strongly that such an [REDACTED] data acquisition flight program over an area where we already have an excellent photo data base is a tailor-made situation to help us determine the intelligence value of that type of [REDACTED] imagery. The imagery could also be used for training purposes within NPIC. A copy of [REDACTED] memorandum is attached to this document.

2. On 23 June 1967, DIA's Special Activities Office forwarded the request to the Director of Operations, HQ, USAF, the Pentagon, ATTN: AFX of FR. A copy of that document also is attached.

3. Several cables concerning this matter were sent out in July (AFXOPR Secret message 77117 dated 11 July 1967, and SCTTI Confidential message 27 220 dated 17 July 1967). The Air Force Avionics Lab at Wright Field has responsibility for the 665-A program. They have a modified KC-135 which has had a large, bulky, bread-board model of the [REDACTED] APQ-103 mounted in it for more than a year. On 27 July 1967, [REDACTED] who is Acting Chief of the 665-A program, wrote a staff study report to AFSC at Andrews summarizing the current state of the 665-A effort. A copy of this report is also attached to this memorandum. In Paragraph 7, on page 3 of this report, a figure of [REDACTED] is itemized as the amount of money which will be needed to pay the expenses of the task force when the aircraft is flown from Dayton to southern Florida and the requested missions around Cuba are flown. Apparently, neither AFAL nor AFSC can come up with this money and they want to know whether NPIC can supply it. If not, then the Cuba [REDACTED] surveillance missions probably will not be flown.

[REDACTED]
DS/ISB

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NPIC/TDS/DS [REDACTED] (14 Sept 67)

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DIA and USAF review(s) completed.