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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

9 MAY 1967

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

SUBJECT: SR-71 Plans

REFERENCE: JCSM-123-67, 7 March 1967, subject: SR-71 Plans.

In response to the above reference, the following guidance is provided:

As of 1 December 1967, SAC will be responsible for maintaining the capability to overfly Southeast Asia and China with SR-71 type aircraft. By that time SAC should have a capability to deploy three aircraft to Kadena within ten days of notification and to fly nine operational sorties per month.

As of 1 July 1967, SAC will be responsible for maintaining the capability to overfly Cuba with SR-71 type aircraft.

No additional funding or personnel are authorized at this time. Requirements for additional funds will be addressed after identification of the assets to be made available from the OXCART program and evaluation of the total needs of the SR-71 program. Personnel needs will be reviewed when the manpower validation survey presently underway is completed and when the needs of the total SR-71 program are established.

The JCS and the Air Force should take the necessary action to maintain refueling and recovery capabilities for the SR-71 at [redacted] Nelson, Alaska.

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