MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office

SUBJECT: Storage of U-2C/G Aircraft

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Director, National Reconnaissance Office, dated 27 November 1968, Subject: ExCom Budget Decision, U-2 Aircraft

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide additional documentation and justification for operating one U-2C/G at Detachment G Edwards AFB, California.

2. On 21 January 1969, the CIA forwarded a memorandum that illustrated several potential uses (RED DOT Tests, etc.) and rationale that would justify limited flying of U-2C/G aircraft. However, the memorandum did not mention a concern for attrition losses during the early stages of U-2 pilot training. Considering the limited number of first line U-2R aircraft in our inventory, it is imperative that every possible measure be taken to prevent attrition losses through exposure to undue risks.
4. The training requirements outlined above for new pilots, plus the tests proposed in our previous memorandum on this subject can be accomplished by limited flying of one U-2C/G aircraft. Maintaining one U-2C/G aircraft in the flyable inventory at Detachment G for limited flying purposes as proposed will cost the NRP approximately per year.

CARL E. DUCKETT
Director, CIA Reconnaissance Programs
SIGNATURE RECOMMENDED:

Director of Special Activities

Date

(8 May 1969)

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Storage of U-2C/G Aircraft

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