

HISTORICAL IMAGERY DECLASSIFICATION FACT SHEET

PROGRAMS DECLASSIFIED	<p>CORONA: Operated from August 1960 - May 1972 Collected both intelligence and mapping imagery.</p> <p>ARGON: Used the organizational framework of CORONA. A mapping system with 7 of 12 missions successful from May 1962 - August 1964.</p> <p>LANYARD: An attempt to gain higher resolution imagery, it flew one successful mission in 1963.</p>
ORIGINS	<p>Soviets orbit first satellite, SPUTNIK 14 October 1957 President Eisenhower endorsed program February 1958 Powers shot down in U-2 on 1 May 1960</p>
SIGNIFICANT DATES	<p># 1 CORONA test launch attempt 28 February 1959 #13 1st successful recovery from space 12 August 1960 #14 Took 1st image from space on 18 August 1960 #145, last CORONA, launched 25 May 1972 Last images of the series taken 31 May 1972 Executive Order announced 24 February 1995 Ceremonies at National Air & Space Museum 24 May 1995</p>
"FIRSTS" IN HISTORY	<p>1st photo reconnaissance satellite in the world 1st mid-air recovery of a vehicle returning from space 1st mapping of earth from space 1st stereo-optical data from space 1st multiple reentry vehicles from space 1st reconnaissance program to fly 100 missions</p>
IMAGERY STATISTICS	<p>Imaging resolution was originally 8 meters (25 feet) but improved to 2 meters (6 feet) Individual images on average covered an area approximately 10 miles by 120 miles</p>
PRODUCTION STATISTICS	<p>Operated for nearly 12 years Over 800,000 images taken from space Collection includes 2.1 million feet of film in 39,000 cans</p>