



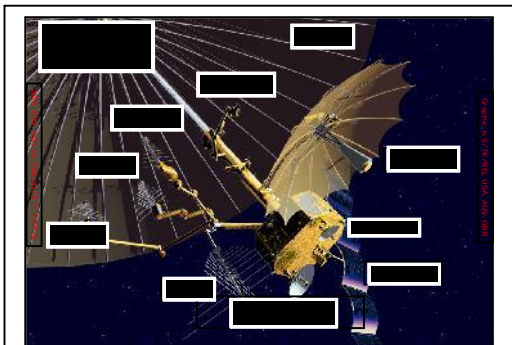
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(S//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Two New Collection Assets to Greatly Expand MHS Target Coverage

By: (U//FOUO) [REDACTED], Menwith Hill Station (F77)

(TS//SI//REL) Menwith Hill Station will accept two new satellites in 2009 – an ORION spacecraft [REDACTED] and a NEMESIS spacecraft [REDACTED]. The arrival of these new vehicles will give MHS greater flexibility in missions, surveys, and signals development efforts and provide opportunities for collection, discovery, and sharing. [REDACTED] will also provide the Intelligence Community with an opportunity to use Overhead in a non-traditional way for a FORNSAT SIGDEV mission.

(S//TK//REL) [REDACTED]
(TS//SI//REL) [REDACTED] currently has a launch date of 13 January 2009. After launch, Alice Springs Mission Ground Station will control [REDACTED] as it deploys and drifts westward, with MHS gaining control 59 days later.



(S//TK//REL) MHS will perform testing and verification before putting the spacecraft into full operations. If the current launch date stands, [REDACTED] will be fully operational sometime around mid May 2009. (Click [HERE](#) for larger image.)

(TS//SI//REL) [REDACTED]'s initial mission is a survey of the People's Republic of China (PRC) line-of-sight microwave towers and emitters. [REDACTED] will survey the area drifting from [REDACTED] east for approximately 30-45 days. At [REDACTED] east, [REDACTED] will pick up its new primary mission from [REDACTED]: [Thuraya](#) collection and Afghanistan/Pakistan exfiltration.

(TS//SI//REL) After spacecraft [REDACTED] transfers the Thuraya mission to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] will drift 0.1 degree a day west, continuing the PRC survey for approximately 200 more days. After completion of the PRC survey, [REDACTED] will take on a new mission targeting Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, greatly expanding MHS's target and coverage area.

