

~~TOP SECRET~~

HANDLE WITH CARE
CONTROL SYSTEM

McMillan

7 December 1963

D [redacted] 511263
11 DEC 1963

Brief Summary of Meeting December , 1963

1. Failure of mission -- there was telemetry switch that failed (LMSD). There is no dispute re separation. Separation is sure but reentry command is uncertain. It may be 50 to 200 mile orbit. After 2 rev telemetry did not show. Telemetry due Thursday.

Best explanation "film did not cut" -- forces to break would explain trajectory. AGENA is now still stable and in orbit but used too much gas -- this is consistent with film breakage hypothesis.

In a few days we will have data on possible landing site.

McMillan will appoint committee to investigate.

McMillan says LMSD is trying within limits; want committee to look at all facets of the problem.

Possible chairmen are:

- (1) [redacted]
- (2) [redacted]
- (3) [redacted]

Wheeler concerned that [redacted] not hard enough. He does not know the reliability game.

McMillan if LMSC made planes they would be in trouble. Engineering is poor.

Telephone security. McMillan raises the issue expressing concern at a number of code words improperly used.

McMillan suggests directive on management of Corona M. Proposing a new draft in defining responsibilities. Most important is that DNRO must approve major changes. Meanwhile CIA contract officer is needed under Greer. It is proposed that DCI nominate such contract officer.

Carter objected to old proposal because too much was turned over to Greer.

Carter says this may not meet objections. CIA has been eroded.

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OXCART

3 of 3 copies

Carter says either [redacted] two payload programs getting [redacted] integration. (2) Establish Greer as a joint CIA-DoD staffing at appropriate level established. CIA deputy for Greer. Send to operating level fact that intelligence is the purpose of this program and no other. NRO should be infused at all levels with this purpose.

McMillan. Be specific.

Carter. Quotes the case of a new program rejected by USIB as not responsive to requirements.

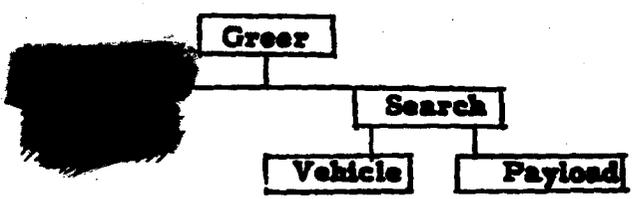
McMillan denies.

Wheelon. First impression was another erosion - but was found that Worthington handles contract and there is a crack there. Now CIA has not exercised option supplying technical leadership, for about a year. This absence created climate that needs a change. We need a better solution.

(1) Let Greer have it all except for security and contracts - has a "sole source" defect - McMillan says the bridge has been crossed). All sole [redacted] carries. Greer's people are too preoccupied with [redacted] they are a center of enthusiasm for high [redacted] too enthusiastic [redacted]

(2) Assuming a two source - let us start a program [redacted] L · W) and E (C, M, C¹ -) whose commitment is to go broad.

(3) Another way to have Greer



McMillan says his idea is roughly to follow route Wheelon #3 but to do this only for operation and minor changes - Greer would have no Corona prime responsibility. We will listen to their ideas. McMillan says Wheelon #2 proposed does not separate R&D from Engineering and Operations

He proposes to abolish 162 - change number 770 make him report to Greer. 770 would include all programs using Thor and TAT.

Instead of a vertical structure for R&D--McMillan wants R&D in NRO. He wants, however, a "deputy staff director for R&D in Greer's staff to supervise all R&D work being tasked by NRO to Greer.

McMillan doesn't want to abdicate R&D to either CIA or Greer. He wants to retain it where he can task everybody.

Wheelon says that this makes things look much better.

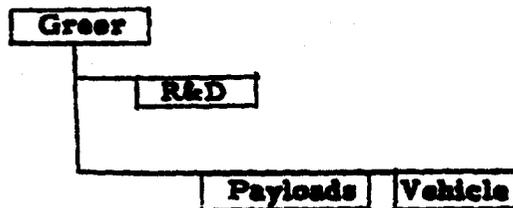
Fubini asks for R&D funds to be separated out.

McMillan unwilling to put any money in a "blank check" basis.

Wheelon says that he is not willing to exclude CIA people from "daily health" program.

Carter. Under McMillan he sees no CIA inputs.

McMillan says he needs strong technical help in the daily health but sees no need for CIA background. It's an advantage but not essential.



McMillan. If HQ decides a program a number of studies should be made. An alternative is chosen but Greer will then have development responsibility.

Wheelon says we don't agree that daily health program should be conducted by Greer only. We agree that daily health is a separate problem.

Wheelon. Want to talk Oxcart vulnerability. Since this is a small section suggest special clearance.



McMillan. Program director meeting January 20 week.

Fubini. Let's have bi-weekly meetings.

17 December - McMillan's office.

