



1011 / ~~TOP SECRET~~

15 Oct 64 23 02Z

[REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ 152331Z

IMMEDIATE [REDACTED] INFO PRIORITY [REDACTED] CITE [REDACTED]

REFERENCE [REDACTED]

1. THE REMOVAL OF THE PARACHUTE FROM THE CAPSULE OF MISSION 1011-1 WAS NOT AN UNAUTHORIZED ACT. IT HAS BEEN THE PRACTICE FOR APPROXIMATELY SIX TO EIGHT MONTHS TO REMOVE THE CHUTES, HOOKS AND RECOVERY RIGGING FOR RE-USE IN AIR CREW TRAINING AS A MATTER OF ECONOMY. IT IS A SURPRISE TO US THAT YOU WERE NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THIS PROCEDURE.

2. WE ARE EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN YOUR ASSERTION OF DROGUE CHUTE DIFFICULTIES AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SOURCE OF INFORMATION. FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE RECOVERY FORCE, [REDACTED] WE WERE INFORMED THAT THE RECOVERY SYSTEM OPERATED NORMALLY.

3. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR STATEMENT OF CONCERN WE ARE TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION TO HAVE THE CHUTE RETURNED. DUE TO THE PROXIMITY OF THE NEXT LAUNCH, WE ARE ALSO ISSUING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE RETURN OF THE CHUTE FROM THE NEXT MISSION.

4. FYI THE EXISTING PROCEDURES REQUIRE THAT THE CHUTE AND RELATED GEAR BE RETURNED ONLY IF AN ABNORMAL CONDITION OCCURS DURING THE RECOVERY OPERATION.

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END OF MESSAGE

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in Accordance with E.O. 12958  
on NOV 26 1997