

~~TOP SECRET~~

SEC E-4
HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~NSA~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

10 August 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL SHIELDS

SUBJECT: Recovery of RV-3

I have discussed your concern about the SOVIETS attempting to recover the HEXAGON RV if we should fail in our attempt to recover it. Dr. Naka has discussed the problem with the Navy, and they are planning to disguise the operation as a practice exercise with the actual operation being handled on a strict need-to-know basis. This method of conducting the search should arouse minimum interest by the SOVIETS should they observe the operation.

A message has also been sent to CIA requesting the following information:

- a. May we assume that the SOVIETS know/suspect that we failed to recover the RV?
- b. Do they have a capability to recover it if we fail to do so?
- c. Is it probable that they may monitor this recovery attempt, and do they normally monitor our air recoveries?

As soon as CIA provides a response I will forward the information to you and the concerned staff personnel. Thank you for calling the problem to my attention.



HEXAGON
HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~TOP SECRET~~

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC REGRADING
DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

CONTROL NO. Internal
COPY _____ OF _____ COPIES
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES