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THE WHITE HOUSE  
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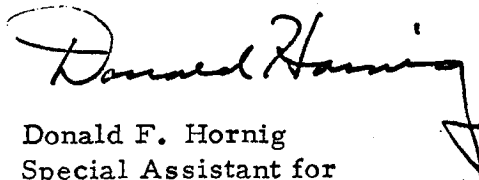
August 24, 1965

Dear Harold:

I have reviewed the draft Memorandum to the President on MOL which you presented at our meeting yesterday and, with the agreement we came to concerning the method of implementation of the program, I concur in the Memorandum.

As you suggested, I have documented the points that I believe were agreed to at the meeting in the attached Minutes. Unless I hear from you to the contrary I will assume that these minutes also represent your understanding of our agreement.

Sincerely,



Donald F. Hornig  
Special Assistant for  
Science and Technology

Dr. Harold Brown  
Director of Defense  
Research and Engineering  
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosure 1

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Minutes of the meeting held on August 23, 1965 in Dr. Hornig's Office to discuss the MOL Program recommendation. (Participants were Dr. Hornig, Dr. Brown, Dr. McMillan, Dr. Hall, Dr. Purcell, Mr. Keeny, Dr. Steininger).

Based on prior discussions with Dr. Hornig and Dr. Land, Dr. Brown offered a draft memorandum to the President on MOL revised to reflect Dr. Hornig's views. This draft was concurred in by Dr. Hornig.

As reflected in the draft, it was agreed that an unmanned capability should be developed concurrently with the MOL, if possible by using a camera system for MOL that can operate without a man, and that the best possible automatic systems for navigation, camera pointing, focusing, and image motion control should be developed and incorporated in the manned as well as in the unmanned system.

It was further agreed that to implement the program proposed by the Memorandum, the DOD would take the following actions:

1. Immediately after program approval choose a contractor to develop the MOL with a [REDACTED] resolution capability and in accordance with the following requirements:
  - a. The camera-optical system should have the objective of operating either manned or unmanned with up to [REDACTED] resolution.
  - b. When in the unmanned mode, necessary optical alignment will be achieved by providing a capability for adjusting alignment remotely or automatically while in orbit rather than by strengthening the structure over that required for manned operation.
  - c. A flight demonstration of the unmanned mode at the best feasible resolution will be conducted within nine months after the first manned flight.
2. Initiate concurrent studies with other contractor(s) on alternate optical systems with the purpose of establishing as soon as possible whether there is any other optical system which would be preferable to that being pursued by the prime contractor in 1 above, particularly with regard to reducing the possibility of resolution degradation in either the manned or unmanned modes.

It was recognized that if the studies performed under 2 above produced a preferable system, it would be necessary to determine at that time whether a program reorientation was necessary or desirable.

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