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+S+ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

19 August 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: PSAC Panel Comments on the MOL

Lt. Colonel Steininger visited us this morning and made some interesting comments on the MOL.

He states that the PSAC Panel on NRO Matters believes the DOD is "killing itself in attempts to justify the man." He says the man does not need to be justified to the Panel; it accepts the man. MOL is an experiment in which man is the experimentor. We should keep it that way.

The PSAC Panel would like to automate all MOL functions so the man can stay loose and be an experimentor. Why not, for example, a sensor to do man's weather avoidance task? The Panel (Dr. Land particularly) thinks such a sensor could be built, but that DOD is so busy justifying man that it won't really want to work on the sensor.

Steininger says, in summary, that the PSAC Panel wants to release man to do his job.

PAUL E. WORTHMAN Colonel USAF

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