

BIF-107-24045-68 Copy No. 1 of 2 Pages: 5

TO: H. Ferger

DATE: 24 October 1968

SUBJECT: A Proposal For a Vehicle Based Alignment System FROM: W. G. Smith

1.0 Background

The Systems Design Department has reviewed the GE alignment document (PDR) and submitted comments per memo BIF-107-24004-68. The present ground alignment technique is questioned from an accuracy standpoint since the quoted GE seismic specification of 5 to 100 Hz (not obtained from site seismic survey data) includes the natural frequencies of the towers (11. 6 cps calculated) and without sufficient tower damping will introduce large errors in the alignment equipment. A site seismic survey is necessary to establish the real environment (which may indicate that little or no coupling between the input frequency and the tower natural frequency is present). However, until a seismic specification is established from actual site data, the present specification is the only guideline available for evaluation of tower and instrument stability. An area which was not covered by the PDR was the effects of motions of the towers, scaffolding and MM structure with respect to the ability of an operator to resolve the motion interactions and read an instrument to sufficient accuracy.

The Aerospace Program Office recommended examination of a vehicle based approach, by GE, to simplify the alignment equipment and improve accuracy due to reduction of the effects of seismic disturbances since the alignment equipment is attached to and moving with the MM structure.

GE performed a tradeoff study of a vehicle based alignment concept and concluded that the vehicle based system is:

a. More expensive due to requirement for realignment of the fixture before each use.

b. Less accurate due to deflections of alignment fixture with respect to the theodolites.

c. Less adaptable to vehicle changes.

d. Heavy.

A review of the GE position was made by the Systems Design Department and it was concluded that the vehicle based system proposed (for comparison with

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY



OCT 28 1968



GE ground based system) by GE had many deficiences but was still, in concept, preferable to a ground based system. (See memo BIF-107-24013-68.) Therefore, further work on a vehicle based system was recommended.

2.0 Scope

This memo discusses the necessary modifications required to the GE vehicle based system to negate all the objections presented by GE.

3.0 Discussion

The GE vehicle based system has a basic inadequacy associated with its design in that it assumes the same theodolite positioning and procedures as the ground based system (towers). This arrangement necessitates use of rails with sliding theodolites and makes tooling alignment difficult (may require ground alignment verification before use). In addition, the tooling itself is used to maintain reference positions (by plunging of theodolites from one to the other) requiring unnecessary accuracy between theodolite positions. This requirement dictates use of a very stiff fixture for mounting of the theodolites and has resulted in a very heavy alignment tool. Reevaluation of the design has been accomplished with the following objectives:

a. Elimination of sliding theodolites - only fixed emplacements considered.

b. No transfer requirement for maintaining reference positions.

c. No high stiffness requirement - use gravity as basic reference between positions.

d. Relative light weight and easy transportability.

e. Eliminate checkout requirement for tool before each use - keeps cost down.

f. Permit vehicle changes without major impact on tooling - simple interface.

4.0 Proposed Design (Ref.: Figures (Pages 16 and 17) of Atch 1)

A vehicle based approach is proposed which can be used for adjusting the equipment locations initially with respect to gravity or the equipment may be installed on a prior sub-assembly to a tolerance consistent with the field of view of the gravity referenced autocollimators (20/30 min with accuracy of 1 sec over full field of view per K&E capability with additional reticle).





L

The vehicle based alignment tool is a welded aluminum box beam structure which is mounted on the Station 517 interface and is indexed radially to the z axis by the close tolerance tooling holes located on the interface ring. The autocollimators are all mounted rigidly. The vertically oriented autocollimators are referenced to an oil pool before use (gravity reference).

A gauging pin is inserted in the tool to measure linear position of the tripod from Station 517 ("go-no go" type). A Talyvel level is mounted to the main cross beam and is used for initial positioning of the MM structure $(2^{\circ} \text{ off vertical})$. This instrument is mounted on the fixture for convenience but could be mounted directly to the MM interface or the angular positioning fixture located at the base of the MM structure. Lifting lugs are provided for handling of the tool since its weight will be such (175-200 lbs) that manual lifting will be difficult. Scaffolding is required to elevate the alignment tool operators to the Station 517 interface. This scaffolding can be of the simple building construction type (tubing and braces). Access to the upper portion of the Station 517 interface is necessary to sight through the autocollimators. If any adjustments are required on the Star Tracker, TM tripod or T-Bar, separate scaffolds will be required to permit access to these areas. The vehicle based alignment eliminates the need for a vehicle spacer at GE (only) and the height required for the scaffolds is less than the present design.

The alignment procedure is as outlined on pages 19, 20 and 21 of Attachment 1.

The alignment equipment necessary to perform the above operations is as follows:

> four autocollimators (minimum) one Talyvel electronic level plus readout gauge one indexing pin one alignment fixture (welded aluminum strongback) two periscope assemblies

The vehicle modifications necessary to perform the alignment is as outlined on page 22 of Attachment 1.

It should be noted that the FAMS/COA sensor (mounted on the tripod leg adjacent to the jettisonable door) and the FAMS/Star Tracker sensor (mounted on the tripod leg adjacent to the star trackers) are presently installed on the tripod as a sub-assembly and referenced to the tripod hub reference target. Since the COA is not in place, at GE, when the alignments are performed, it is desirable to verify the position of the FAMS/COA sensor with respect to the hub reference target. This operation is performed by the proposed alignment fixture (except the target is moved to the roll axis shaft end) since the FAMS/COA sensor position cannot be checked by the flight alignment system since it is incomplete at this time. This alignment check insures alignment of the sensor with respect to the shaft reference target before shipping to PPAC. However, the FAMS/Star Tracker sensor is not checked by the alignment fixture since the star trackers are already installed and to

SEGRE



check the positioning of the sensor it is only necessary to turn on the light source in the star tracker (after alignment of the star tracker to the hub) and measure the output of the sensor for null position. Since the sensor is aligned to the shaft reference target (as a sub-assembly) and the star tracker is aligned to the shaft reference target by the alignment fixture, misalignment of the sensor (occurring between sub-assembly and final assembly) is easily measured by the FAMS/Star Tracker output signal.

A desirable approach, which has not been examined by the Systems Design Department to date, is to design the flight alignment system so it may be used for all ground alignments as well. It should be noted that this system requires additional complexity than is currently designed into the flight alignment system. Since it is difficult to ascertain whether the component or the sensor itself has shifted, it will be necessary to reference one system to another or a base reference system. As an example, if the star tracker is positioned with respect to the FAMS/Star Tracker sensor, it is difficult to determine if the sensor has shifted (let's say, after vibration, transportation, or hot-dogging) or the star tracker has shifted, unless both are referenced to some common point such as the shaft reference target. (This capability is provided by the proposed vehicle alignment fixture.)

5.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

The proposed alignment fixture satisfies all the original design conditions (see paragraph 3.0) and reduces the facilities problem at the associate contractors since there are no stringent environmental provisions required. The most significant advantage of the design is the reduction of seismic disturbances between the MM vehicle and the alignment equipment. The relatively simple tool which has been proposed will perform all the necessary alignment functions within an accuracy of five arc seconds. A reservation of the use of the fixture is that the Station 517 interface must be available for mounting. This requirement does not permit equipment alignment (by means of this alignment fixture) after the LM is attached. However, this contingency has been considered and bolt-on supplemental fixtures have been designed into the system (Ref.: Page 18 of Attachment 1) to permit alignment checks at DAC (after LM mating) and at VAFB when the vehicle is mated and vertical. (This requirement necessitates the addition of Talyvel levels on the critical components.) These same fixtures can be designed to check the alignments across the LM/MM interface (ATS and ARSI (attitude reference) to roll axis shaft reference target).

The material in Attachment 1 was orally presented to GE on 3 October 1968 (one copy was left with A Steinmayer of GE) and no objections were given by GE which would prevent incorporation of the concept into the program. It is therefore recommended that GE be directed to evaluate the proposed design as a possible alternate if the present or future problems with the ground alignment system cannot be resolved. It should be noted that GE is proceeding with hardware development of the ground based system and will have their facility completed by the first quarter of 1969. This will provide a basis



for evaluation of the ground based system and should any unresolvable problems be encountered at this time, it would be desirable to have an alternate system which could be implemented on a tight schedule. It is therefore imperative that the vehicle based system be studied at the earliest possible time so that vehicle modifications can be evaluated and long lead items procured.

W. G. Smith

G. M. Kelsey

Approved:

WGS:dm

Attachment:

Briefing Charts BIF-107-24042-68, Copy 4, dated 30 September 1968, "Proposed Vehicle Based Alignment System" 30 pages

- cc: J. Henry
 - J. Steinman

1.

D. Willens





NRO APPROVED FOR

Service Service

•••

RELEASE 1 JULY 2015

SECRET / DORIAN

.....

BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 3

Program mangalana

revision and a second

OBJECTIVES

•

•

• •

SECRET / DORIAN

سي بد شد

<u>f</u>e

SECRET / DORIAN

OBJECTIVES

0

0

1

1

TO REPLACE THE GROUND BASED TOWERS WITH A VEHICLE BASED FIXTURE

PRESENT A WORKABLE CONCEPT

NO ATTEMPT TO OPTIMIZE THE DESIGN

BIF-107-24042-68

PAGE 4

TO CONSIDER THE SYSTEM ASPECTS, L.E.,

ALIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS AND FACILITIES

DORIAN

AT EACH CONTRACTOR AND AT VAFB.



•

. .

SECRET / DORIAN

BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 6 PAGE

G. E. GROUND BASED

ALIGNMENT SYSTEM

جيرون جاري

-SECRET / DORIAN



~-----





NRO APPROVED FOR

RELEASE 1 JULY 2015

۳.,

 SECRET / DORIAN

BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 10

رويد فالمرجد مرجو

G.E. VEHICLE BASED

ALIGNMENT SYSTEM

DORIAN







NRO APPROVED FOR

RELEASE 1 JULY 2015

.

(* <u>1</u>5

SECRET / DORIAN

AEROSPACE PROPOSED VEHICLE

ALIGNMENT SYSTEM

-/ DORIAN

BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 14

BASED





NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1 JULY 2015 SECRET / DORIAN BIF-107-24042-68 17 PAGE PROPOSED VEHICLE BASED SYSTEM ALUM PLATE (WELDED) AUTOCOLLIMATOR # 2 AUTOCOLLIMATOR #4 SECAA STAR وراقا ورافر فلترج فكروب والارداق TRACKERS MM TRACE GAUGE PIN HOLE TALYVEL LEVEL-ΗĀ (USED FOR INITIAL MM ALIGN) PITCH ROLL TARGETS ENCODER TM TARGE VEHICLE 옷목 AXIS PITCH AYIS COLL . TARGETS (MUST BE REMOVED AUTOCOLLIMATOR 6 AT DAC BEFORE ASSY OF L (USED AT GE FOR FAMS ALIGNMENT / PPAC AUTOCOLLIMATOR FOR RECEIVING GROUND INSPECTION) + Z <u>874</u> 5/7.4 HANDLING AUTOCOLLIMATOR HOLES AUTOCOLLIMATOR 5 SEGRET / DORIAN 01-024 nor sole patient





NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1 JULY 2015 / DORIAN BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE · 20 AEROSPACE PROPOSED VEHICLE BASED ALIGNMENT STEPS (CONTINUED) 11. AUTOCOLLIMATE THEODOLITE #4 TO UPPER STAR TRACKER TARGET THROUGH PERISCOPE USING HALF SILVERED, INCLINED MIRROR (OBSCURE LOWER PORT WHILE AUTOCOLLIMATING OFF UPPER STAR TRACKER). . 12. AUTOCOLLIMATE THEODOLITE #4 TO LOWER STAR TRACKER TARGET THROUGH PERISCOPE BY SIGHTING PAST HALF SILVERED MIRROR TO LOWER FULLY SILVERED MIRROR (OBSCURE UPPER PORT WHILE AUTOCOLLIMATING OFF LOWER STAR TRACKER). 13. AUTOCOLLIMATE THEODOLITE #5 TO OIL POOL TO ESTABLISH VERTICAL (GRAVITY) REFERENCE. 14. AUTOCOLLIMATE THEODOLITE #5 TO FAMS SENSOR FOR CHECK OF ALIGNMENT TO TM SHAFT TARGET. 15. AUTOCOLLIMATE THEODOLITE #6 TO OIL POOL TO ESTABLISH VERTICAL (GRAVITY) REFERENCE. 16. AUTOCOLLIMATE THEODOLITE #6 TO PITCH TARGETS ON COUNTERBALANCED T-BAR PITCH SIMULATOR AND INDEX INCREMENTALLY TO EACH PITCH POSITION WHILE READING VALUE ON ALIGNMENT MONITORING SET. (FOR PITCH ENCODER CALIBRATION). 17. AUTOCOLLIMATE ON TM SHAFT REFERENCE TARGETS AND INDEX INCREMENTALLY TO EACH ROLL POSITION WHILE READING VALUES ON ALIGNMENT MONITORING SET (FOR ROLL ENCODER CALIBRATION). 18. NON-ORTHOGONALITY OF ROLL TO PITCH AXES IS THEN CHECKED BY THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE: USING AUTOCOLLIMATOR #1, RECORD THE CHANGE IN COLLIMATION **A**. ANGLE VERSUS ROLL ROTATION OF THE T-BAR SHAFT (SIGHT AUTOCOLLIMATOR ON MIRROR LOCATED ON FORWARD FACE OF SHAFT. THIS PROCEDURE WILL INDICATE THE AMOUNT OF CONING PRODUCED BY THE SHAFT IN THE ROLL AXIS. PLOT THESE DATA.



ELEASE 1.	JULY 2015				-
	····		<u>SECRET</u> / DORIAN	\	
			BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 22		annaite a clair th
	• •	_ A 1	EROSPACE PROPOSED VEHICLE BASED ALIGNMENT SYSTEM		
ŀ.			MODIFICATIONS REQUIRED		• •
	•				
		1.	MOVE STAR TRACKER TARGETS TO INSIDE OF MM STRUCTURE TO PERMIT VIEWING (STAGGER TARGETS', FWD & AFT STAR TRACKERS)		na se
		2.	REMOVE PRESENT HUB REFERENCE CUBE AND INSTALL SHAFT REFERENCE WHICH HAS HALF SILVERED MIRROR AT NULL AND		ny júly sport og skale af star
-			INCREMENTAL MIRRORS.		
		3.	PROVIDE INCREMENTAL PITCH AXIS MIRRORS ON T-BAR PITCH SHAFT SIMULATOR.		
		4.	PROVIDE PAD ON TRIPOD FOR INDEXING WITH RESPECT TO STATION 517 USING INDEXING PIN.		n e e sougeliët - s a tracts
	•	5.	REMOVE HOLES (TWO 1.75" X 2.50") IN STRUCTURE WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR GROUND BASED ALIGNMENT SYSTEM.		
•	•	6.	ELIMINATE SUBSTITUTE DOOR.	• • • • •	
	········	····	- GECRET / DORIAN	/	
					arah gun men









NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE-1 JULY 2015 DORIAN . BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 27 j, žie SUMMARY •1• 11 SECRET / DORIAN



Star and

• :=

- SEGRET- / DORIAN

RECOMMENDATION

•

-SECRET / DORIAN

BIF-107-24042-68 PAGE 29

.

• •

