

HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]
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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON



17 December 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

Dear John:

Reference is made to your memorandum of 23 November concerning a launch facility at Cape Kennedy for ATLAS/AGENA reconnaissance satellites.

With regard to east-west launches from the Western Test Range, I understand this would be possible with an ATLAS/AGENA-boosted CORONA vehicle, but not with the [REDACTED] satellite, due to the greater weight of the latter.

I am glad you share my belief that an ATLAS/AGENA pad at Cape Kennedy will be useful for a variety of future missions. The DMRO will therefore be authorized to proceed with the preparation of such a facility.

Sincerely,

Bob
Robert S. McNamara

Honorable John A. McCone
Director of Central Intelligence Agency

Declassified and Released by the N R O

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

CORONA
[REDACTED]

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