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3 July 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Trip Report - West Coast
23-28 June 1958**

Itinerary

- 23 June Depart Washington, D.C.
- 24 June Lockheed MSD
Palo Alto, California
- 25 June BMD/USAF
Los Angeles, California
[Redacted]
San Diego, California
- 26 June Lockheed Aircraft Corporation
Burbank, California
[Redacted]
Pasadena, California
- 27 June Indian Springs AFB, Nevada
Edwards AFB, California
- 28 June Return to Washington, D.C.

1. Lockheed Missile Systems Division

a. During the visit to LMSD, Palo Alto, California, the second draft of the CORONA cover story was reviewed and discussed with [Redacted] and Mr. James Plummer. Both consider the story to be adequate for their present needs but suggested that it should include the manner in which the [Redacted] facility is to be serviced.

Declassified and Released by the N R C

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

This document contains information
relating to the national defense
of the United States within the meaning
of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C.
Sections 793 and 794, and the
Roosevelt Espionage Laws, Title 50, U.S.C.
Sections 2381 and 2382.

b. [redacted] noted that an agreement had been reached with Ballistic Missiles Division/USAF to hold monthly program review meetings to uncover and make known any problem areas requiring outside assistance. [redacted] thought it appropriate to have CORONA Headquarters personnel present at each of these meetings so that they could keep informed on the progress being made towards the operational date.

c. The balance of the visit consisted of a tour of the plant facilities and an explanation as to how they plan to tie the [redacted] facility into work being done at Sunnyvale.

2. Ballistic Missiles Division/USAF

a. The CORONA cover story was reviewed with Colonel William S. Sheppard to obtain his views on the use of medical research as the unclassified cover and to incorporate AERP requirements into a legitimate classified cover story. Col. Sheppard recommended a reduced interest in bio-med studies and reference to activities involving primates and as a replacement to expand an interest towards solving the many remaining problems of re-entry.

b. Col. Sheppard also noted the fact that there is a definite need to strengthen the security within AERP. He noted that each of the major aircraft companies have representatives on the AERP scientific panel and these individuals sit in on discussions on programs being planned under the sponsorship of AERP and, therefore, could very easily become knowledgeable of CORONA interests in the WS-117L program. He suggested that someone meet with Admiral Clark to emphasize the need for security on CORONA matters and that he was certain Admiral Clark would be most receptive to any suggestions towards strengthening their over-all security.

c. The need to educate Headquarters personnel in the area of missiles was discussed with Col. Sheppard and he suggested the best means for doing this would be to actually witness the count-down and launching of a Thor booster. During the month of July, there will be two such launchings from Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. The first is on the 9th of July and the second is the 23rd of July. The count-down, of course, begins two days prior to the actual launch. Col. Sheppard would be most happy to make the necessary arrangements but asks that the number of personnel visiting the site be kept to a minimum.

d. Within BMD, Col. Sheppard is the only one on a working level with whom we are permitted to do business. He is finding it extremely

difficult to work alone and is attempting to seek assistance from General Ritland in obtaining additional personnel for his staff. Should he be successful, this would necessarily require additional clearances on an expedite basis.

c. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

a. [REDACTED]

b. [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

a. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

a. [REDACTED]

*****NOTICE OF REMOVED PAGES*****

Page 4 is not provided because the full text does not contain CORONA, ARGON, LANYARD programmatic information.