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15 January 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Security Branch, Development Projects Division

SUBJECT : CORONA and ARGON Briefing for Ambassador Stevenson and Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Assistant Secretary of State for U. N. Affairs

1. Following the Special Group meeting of 11 January at which time he apparently had a talk with U. Alexis Johnson, Mr. Bissell passed word to me through [redacted] that he wanted IPD "to take whatever steps are necessary to brief Johnson and Cleveland on CORONA and ARGON". [redacted] reported that Mr. Bissell had reached this conclusion "with some reluctance". It was not implied that there should be any briefing which would include demonstrations of the end product.

2. I would like to suggest that you discuss this matter with [redacted] making certain that he closes the loop with Roger Hillsman, and I further suggest that you take your cue regarding the timing and scope of this briefing from [redacted] who presumably will be in touch with Johnson on this subject. It may also turn out that the action party for doing the arranging will be Mr. Philip Farley, Assistant to the Secretary for U. N. Affairs and Space. Unless State feels otherwise about it, I suggest that this be a low key briefing in which you take the principal role. If State feels that additional horsepower is required at the briefing, please let me know. I am certain that Mr. Bissell is not eager to be the briefing officer for this exercise, but we will, of course, defer to State's views insofar as is possible. I believe there is some relative urgency to this briefing because of the current hoopla over the U. S. resolution on satellite registration which has been the subject of voluminous correspondence of late.

[redacted]

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Acting Chief, IPD-DD/P

P. S. Since the above was dictated, the issue was discussed between General Cabell and Mr. Hillsman. General Cabell requested that Mr. Reber advise IPD that full-scale ARGON and CORONA briefings, including end product, be given to Ambassador Stevenson and Mr. Cleveland. Timing of the briefings is to be set by Mr. Hillsman.