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[redacted]

6 June 1960

Dear [redacted]

Per our conversation today, the following data has been extracted from the letter from the West Coast:

"Examination and evaluation of the new container has brought us to the conclusion that the improved spool quality desired will not result unless certain problems are resolved. Three major problems now apparent and their suggested solution are listed.

1. The shipping flanges exert considerable pressure on the spool flanges at the points where the rubber pads are located. If the nut holding the flanges together should be tightened excessively, the risk of forcing the supply spool flanges to bend in at these points is considered very high. Should a permanent set be incurred in the spool flanges there will be a probability of interference with the payload as it unspools increasing the probability of static marking, edge damage, and camera mistracking. It is recommended that Ed Green be instructed to tighten the nut with caution. Since padding is necessary to ensure contact of shipping flange to spool flange, it is recommended that the diameter and number of the pads be increased, or better, a ring of rubber approximately one inch wide be used in place of the small isolated pads now used. Either change would greatly improve the distribution of loads in the spool flanges.

2. The center tie bolt now being used is pinned to one of the flanges making it necessary to support the full weight of the flange and hold it perfectly parallel to the spool flange while drawing the belt from the spool. The slightest deviation from true parallel in withdrawing the belt causes it to exert pressure on the holes in the spool. Since the threads on the belt are full size there is extreme danger of these damaging the supply spool holes. If any nicks or burrs are developed on the edges of the holes great difficulty may be experienced in installing the spool on the instrument.

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We recommend that a belt of the same diameter as the existing belt be used, but that it be threaded one size smaller and on both ends. In order to facilitate removal of nuts, two hex heads should be provided as a purchase area for wrenches. With the recommended design both flanges could be readily removed before the belt is withdrawn.

3. It is recommended that the payload spools be wrapped in polyethylene bags to prevent paint flakes and other foreign matter from working down into the spaces between the film and the flanges.

Since it would be highly desirable to limit these problems to the fewest spools possible, we suggest that you give these recommendations your earliest consideration."

SIGNED
[redacted]
Major USAF

[redacted]
7 June 1960
Distribution: [redacted]