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CORONA SYSTEM



This photographic search and surveillance program is an outgrowth of the original Discoverer Program, which first flew successfully in 1959 with 63 recoveries to date.

Lockheed furnishes the Agena vehicle and photographic payload section, and performs the launch and payload recovery integration.

Associate Contractors:	McDonnell Douglas	-	Thor Booster
	ITEK	-	Primary Camera
	Fairchild	-	Dual Improved Stellar Index Camera
	General Electric	-	Recovery Vehicles (2)

Testing of the Agena and Forward Section is accomplished independently in Sunnyvale and a modified final systems test is conducted at Vandenberg AFB before launch. Upon mission completion, recovery vehicles are returned to Sunnyvale for equipment removal and refurbishment. The film supply is forwarded to [redacted] for processing.

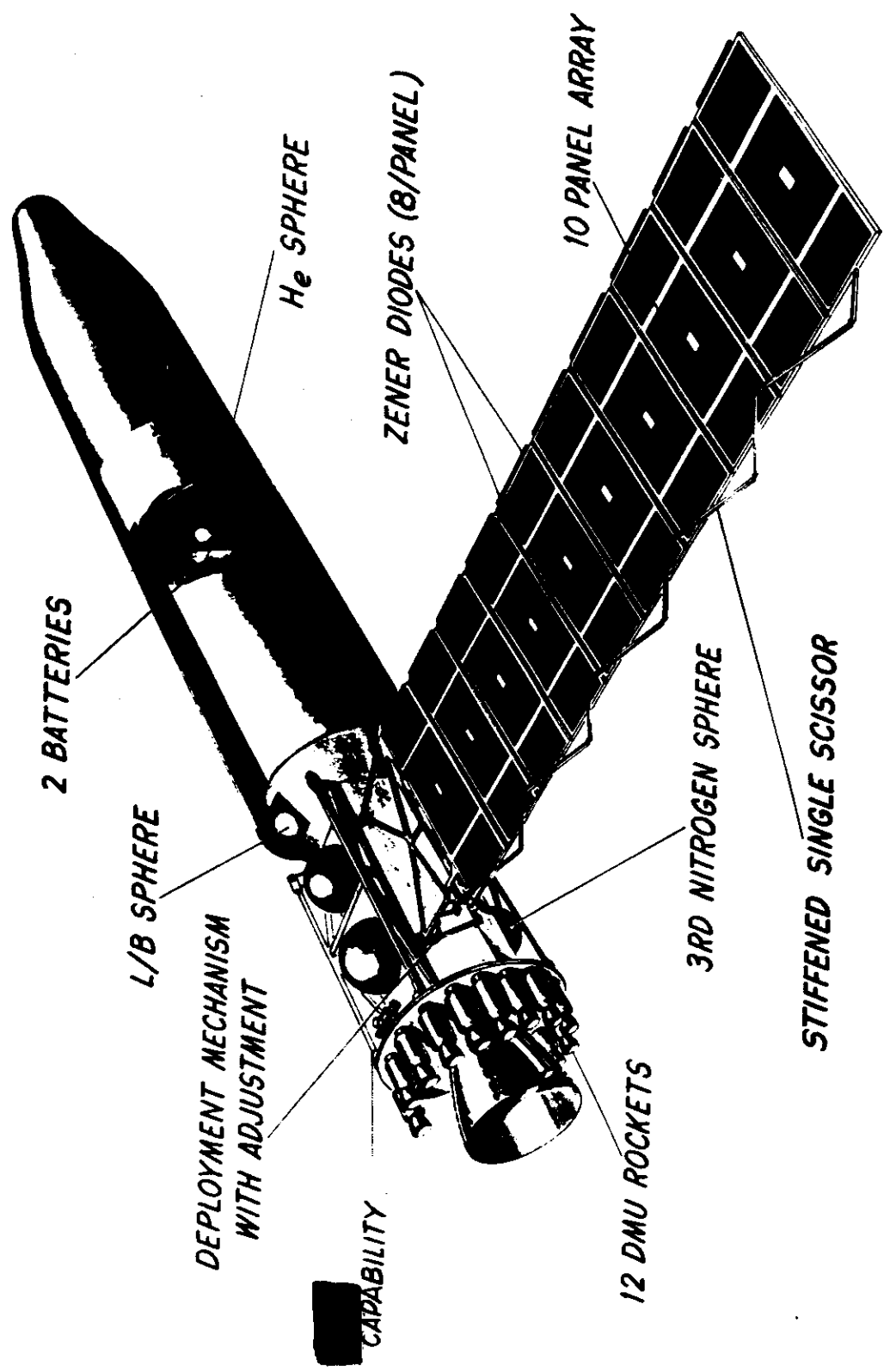
The following photographs reflect the flight sequence of events, the Agena vehicle, and the forward section hardware.

[redacted]
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

Declassified and Released by the NRO
In Accordance with E. O. 12958
on NOV 26 1997

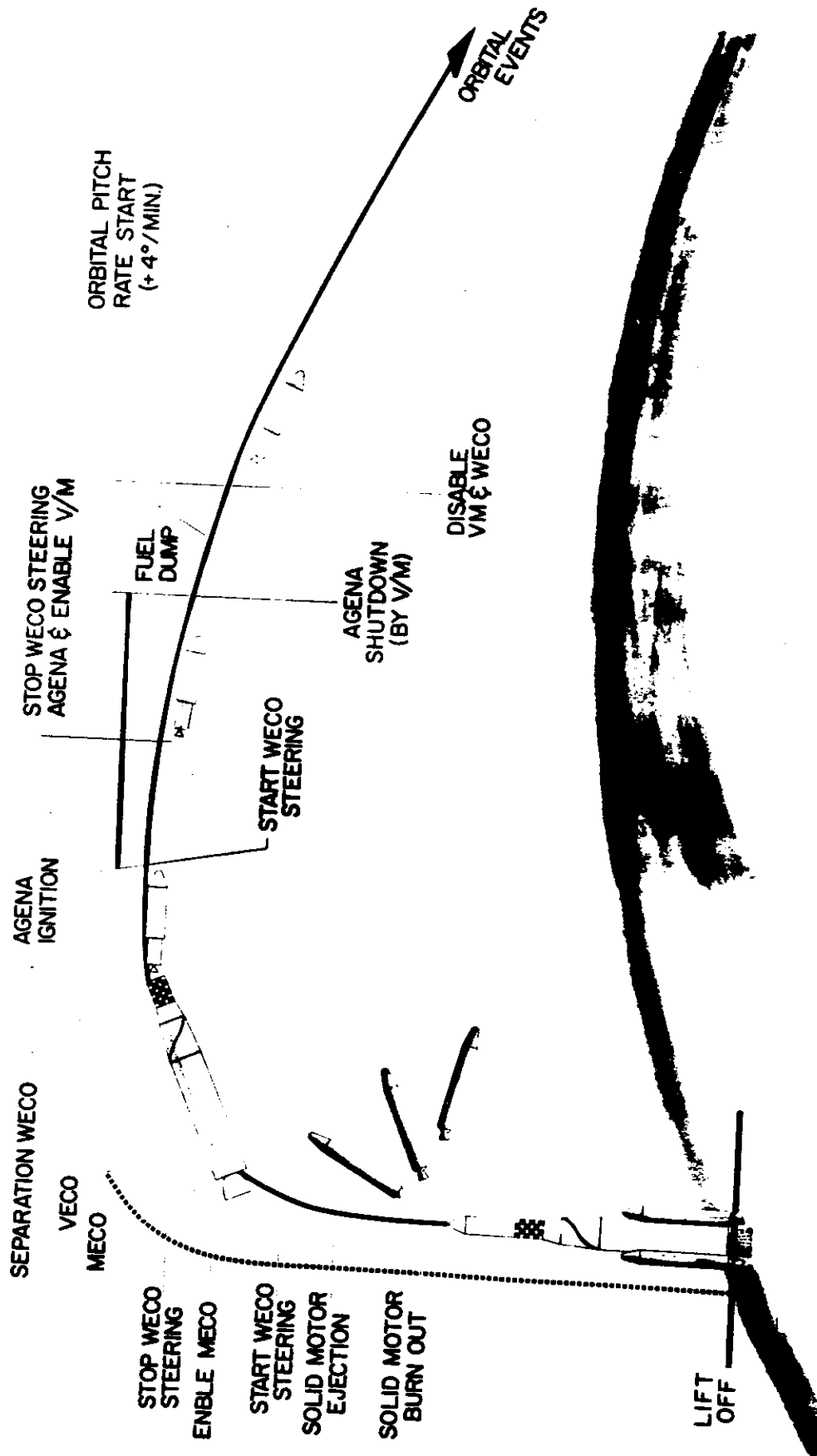
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VEHICLE WITH SOLAR ARRAY



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ASCENT SEQUENCE OF EVENTS (U)



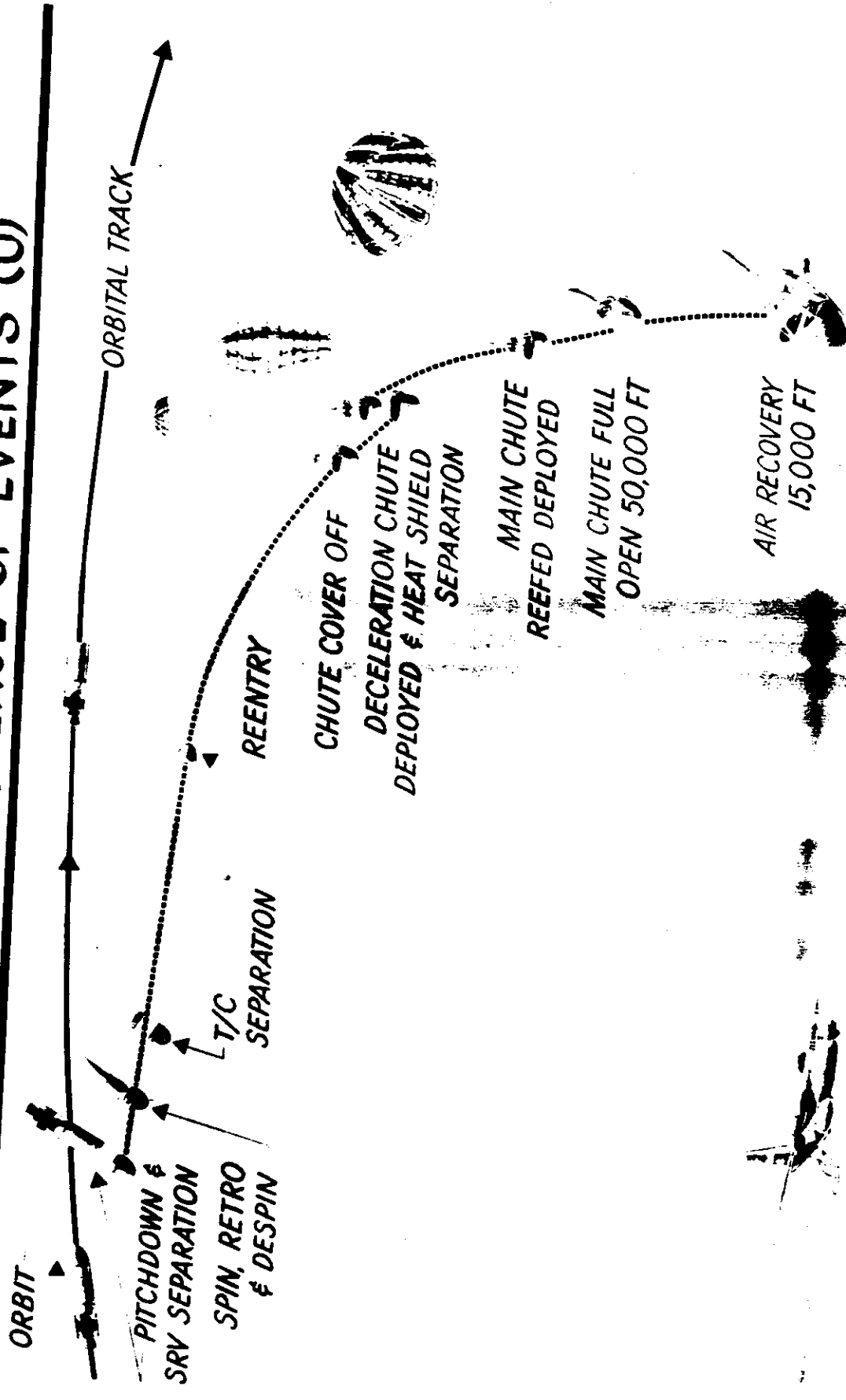
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ORBITAL PITCH RATE START (+4°/MIN.)

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RECOVERY SEQUENCE OF EVENTS (U)



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LOCKHEED MISSILES & SPACE COMPANY

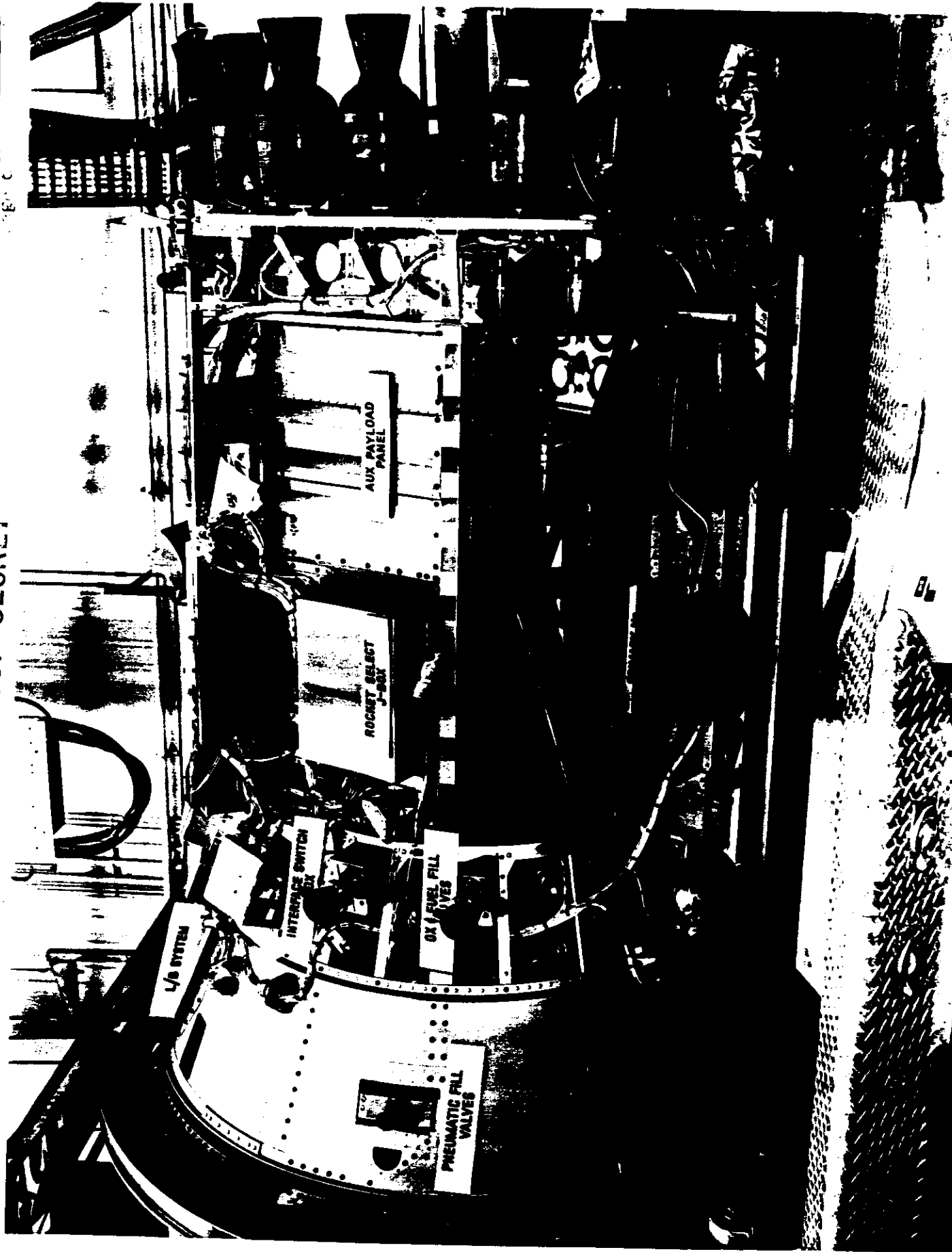
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HANDLING
CONTROL SYSTEMS

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L/S SYSTEM

INTERFACE SWITCH

ROCKET SELECT J-50X

AUX PAYLOAD PANEL

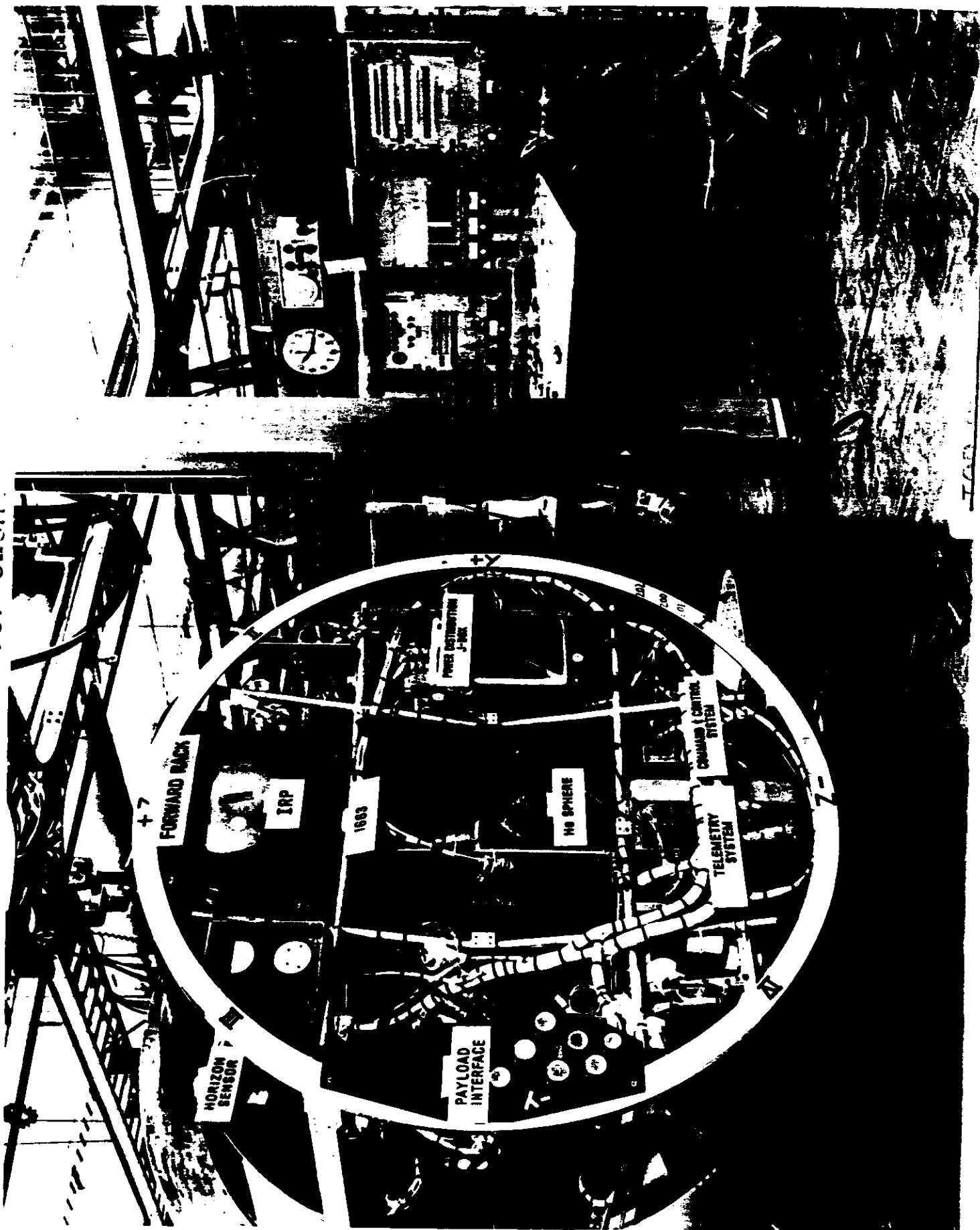
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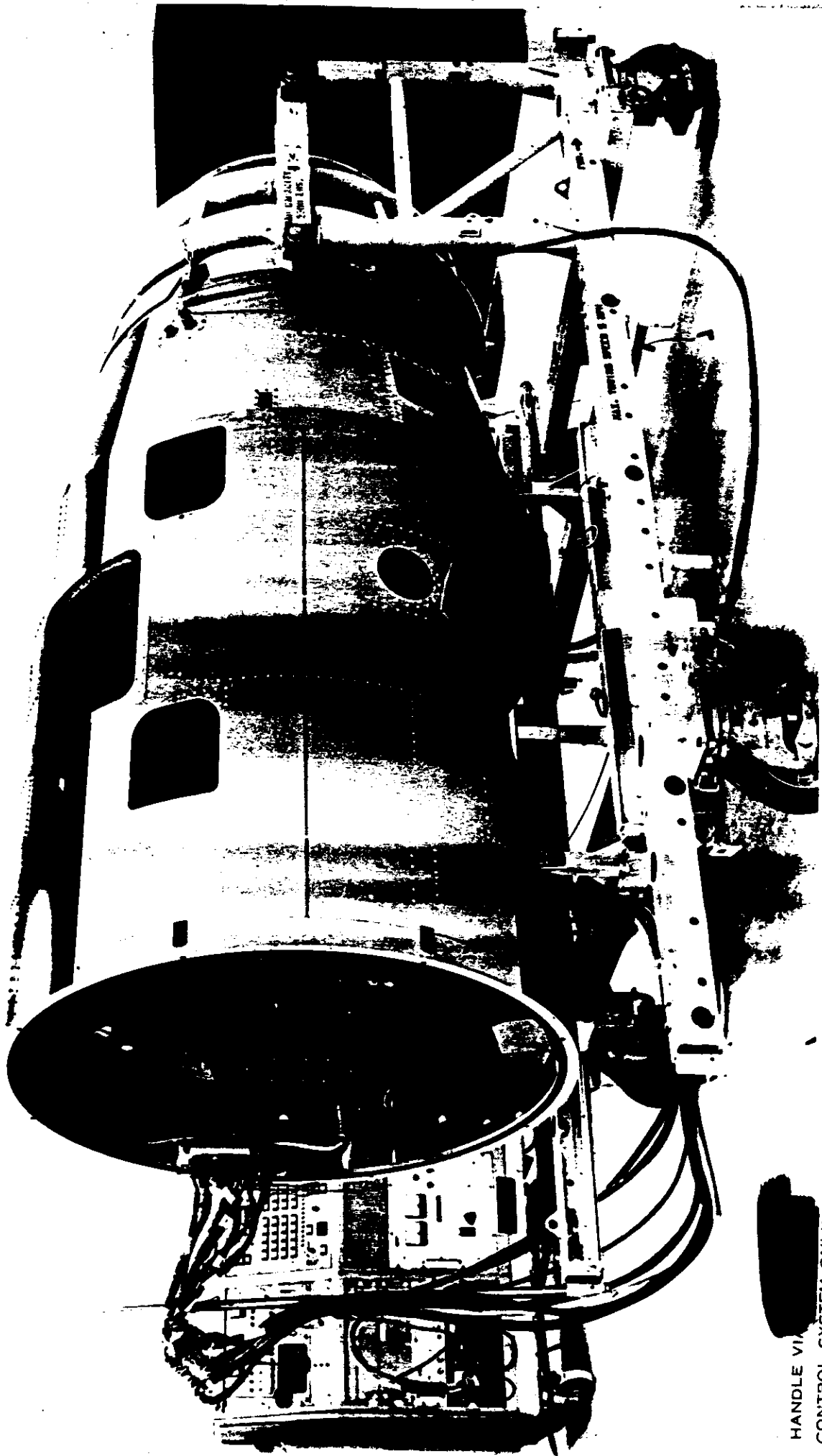
HAND CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

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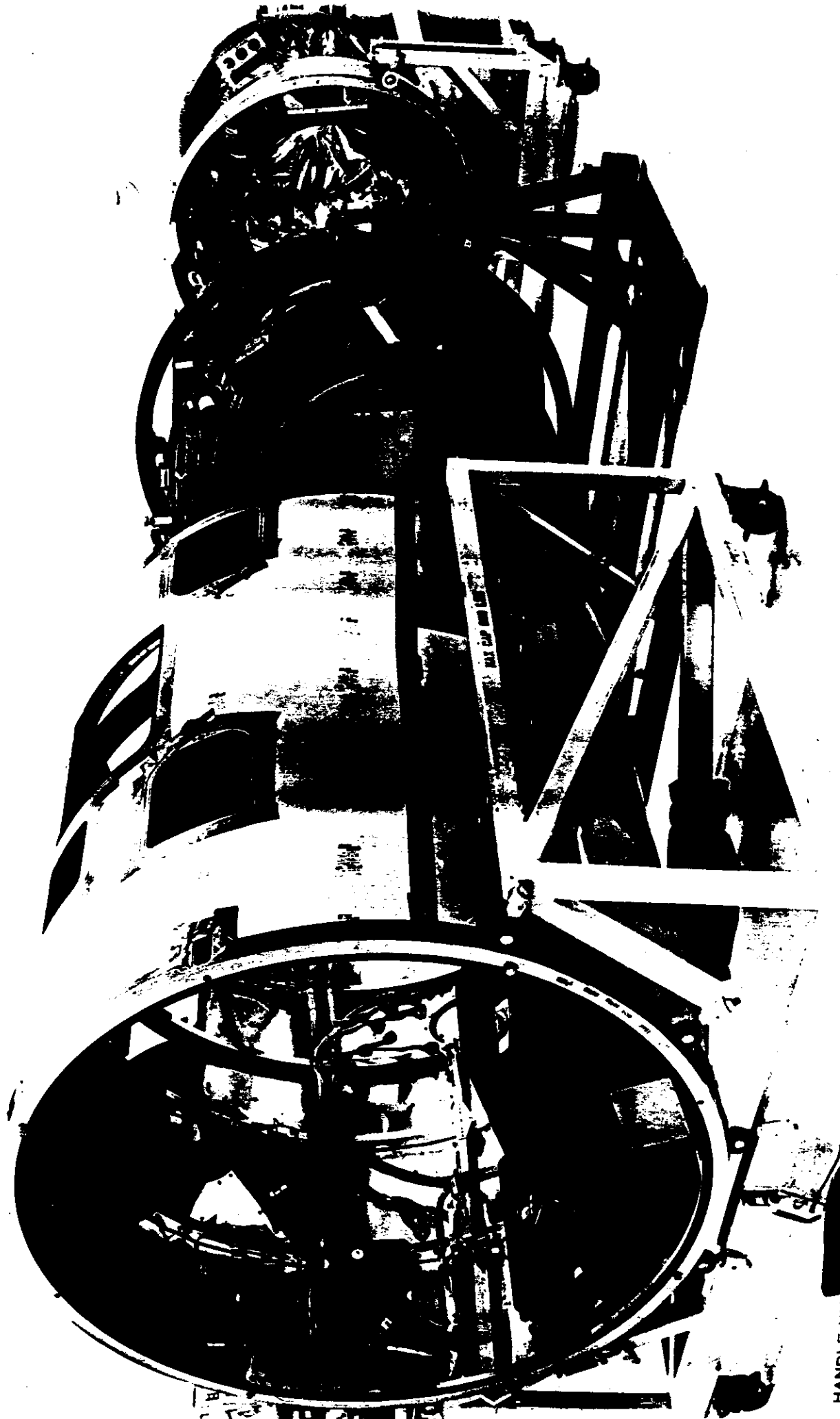


HANDLE WITH CARE
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

CORONA SYSTEM IN SYSTEM TEST CONFIGURATION

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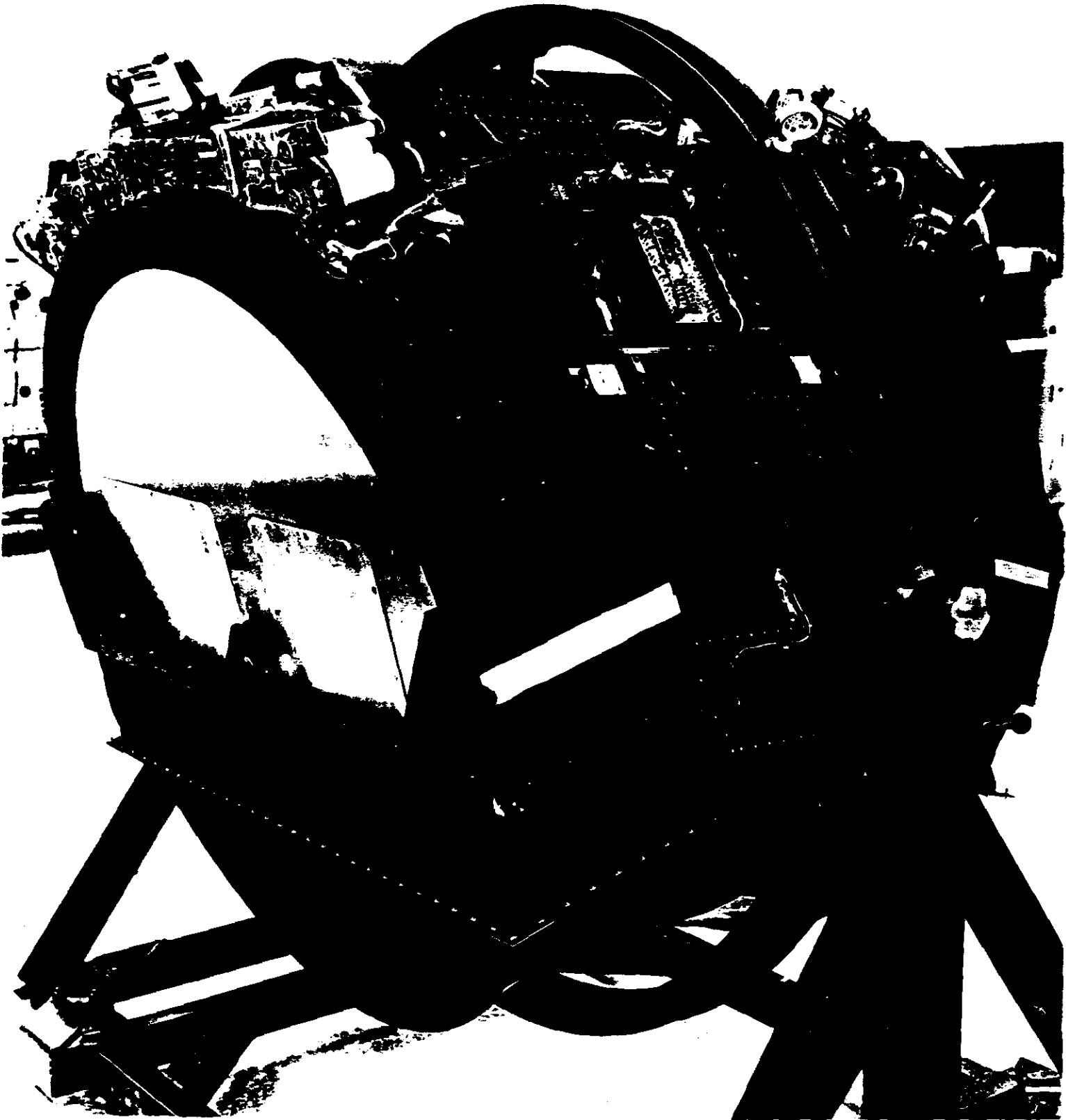
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EXPLODED CORONA SYSTEM (LESS SUPPLY CARRIER)

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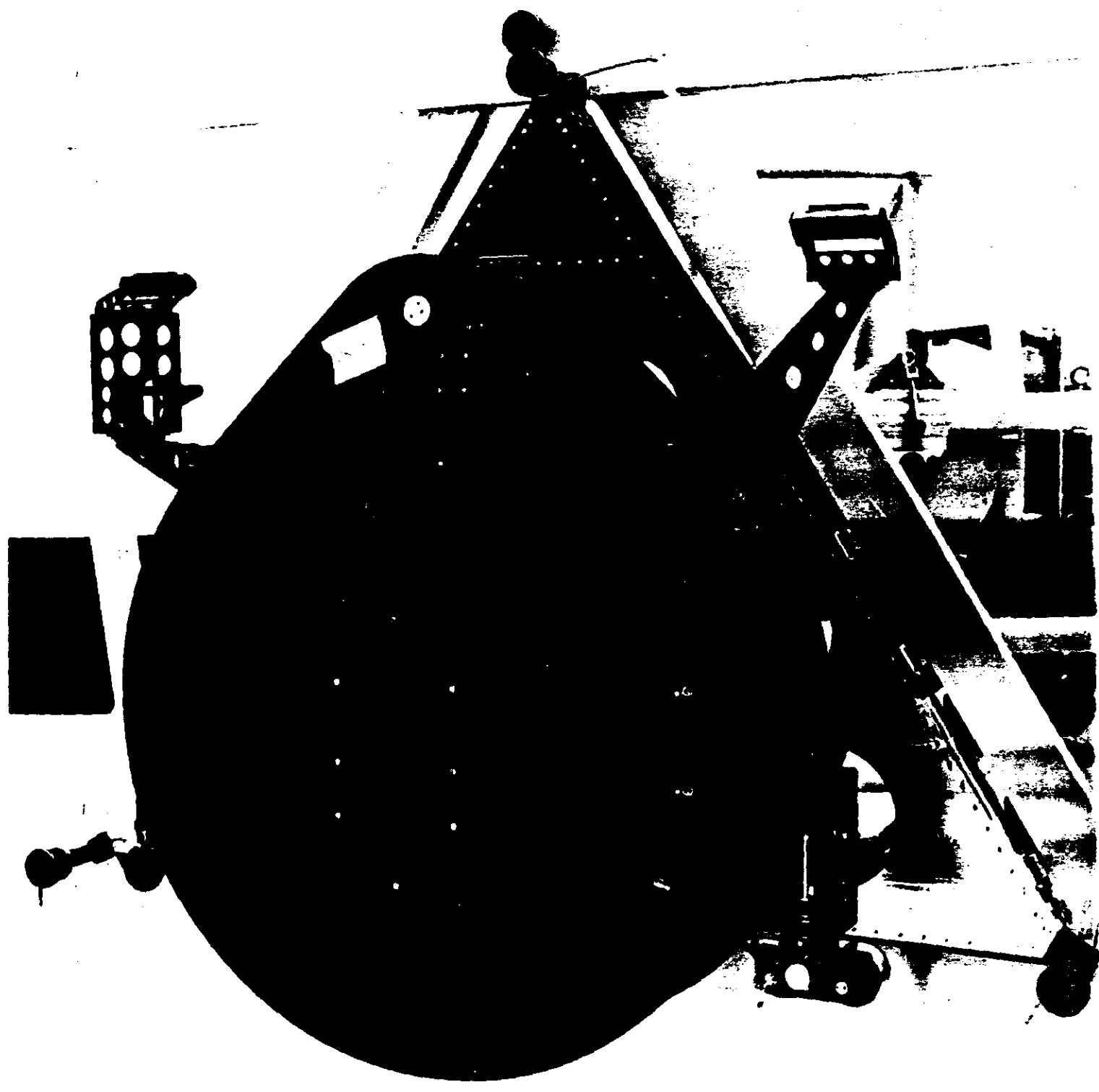


CONSTANT ROTATOR CAMERA ASSEMBLY IN TEST FRAME

HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]
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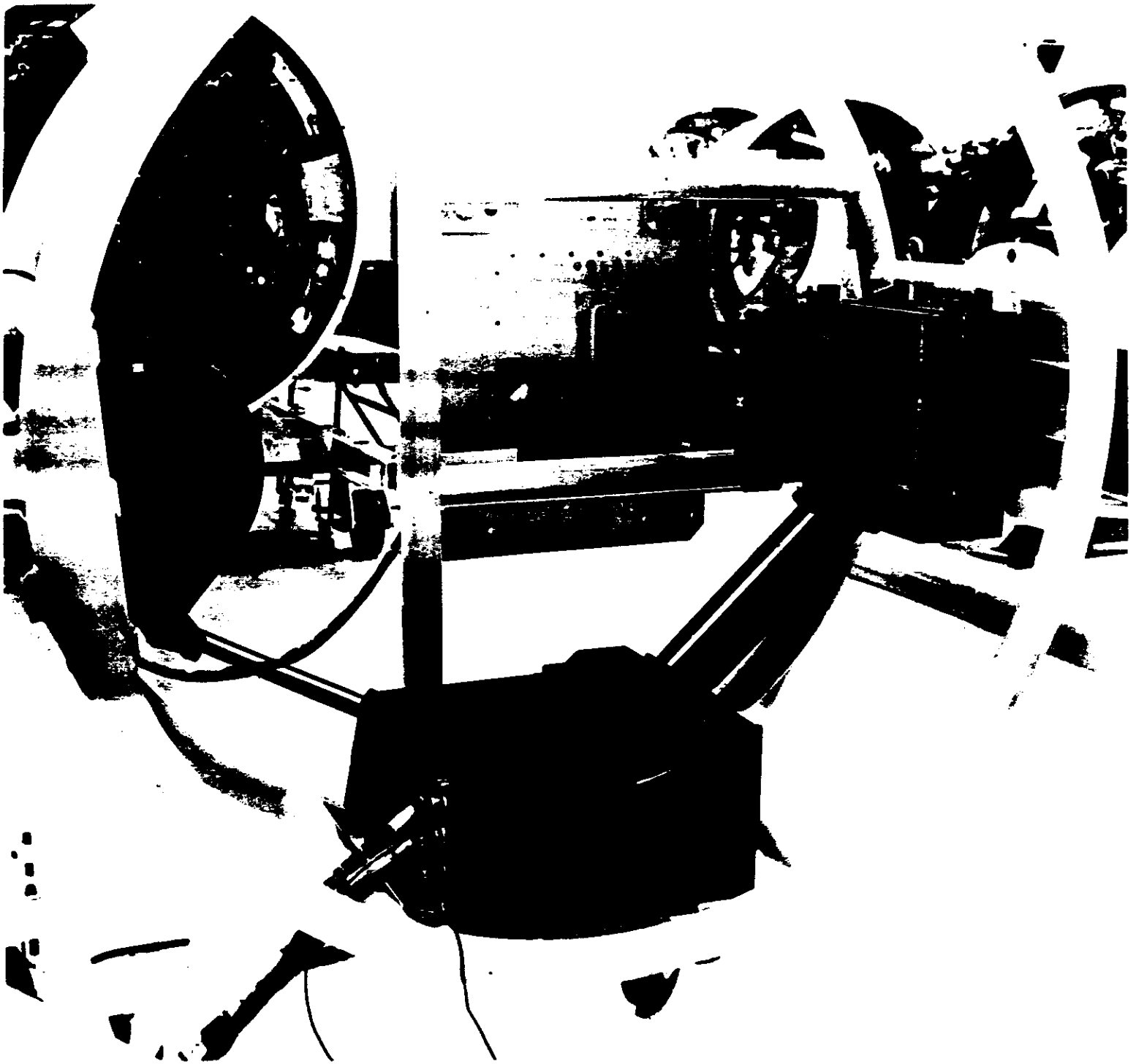


MAIN CAMERA FILM SUPPLY ASSEMBLY (LOOKING FORWARD)

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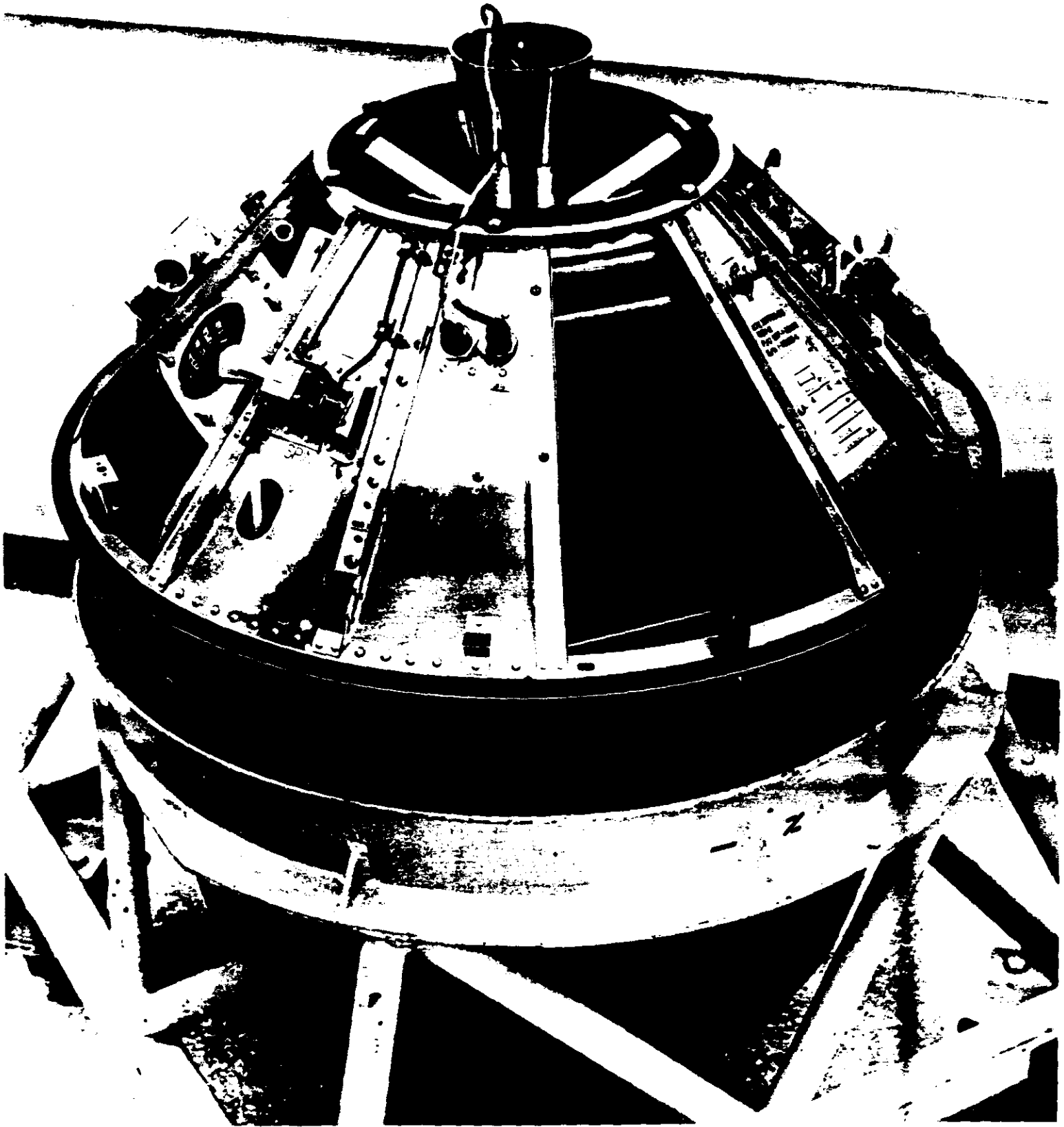
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DUAL IMPROVED STELLAR INDEX (DISIC) CAMERA IN TEST
FRAME. FILM SUPPLY AT LEFT, CAMERA AT BOTTOM
CENTER, CUT AND SPLICE DEVICE ON RIGHT.

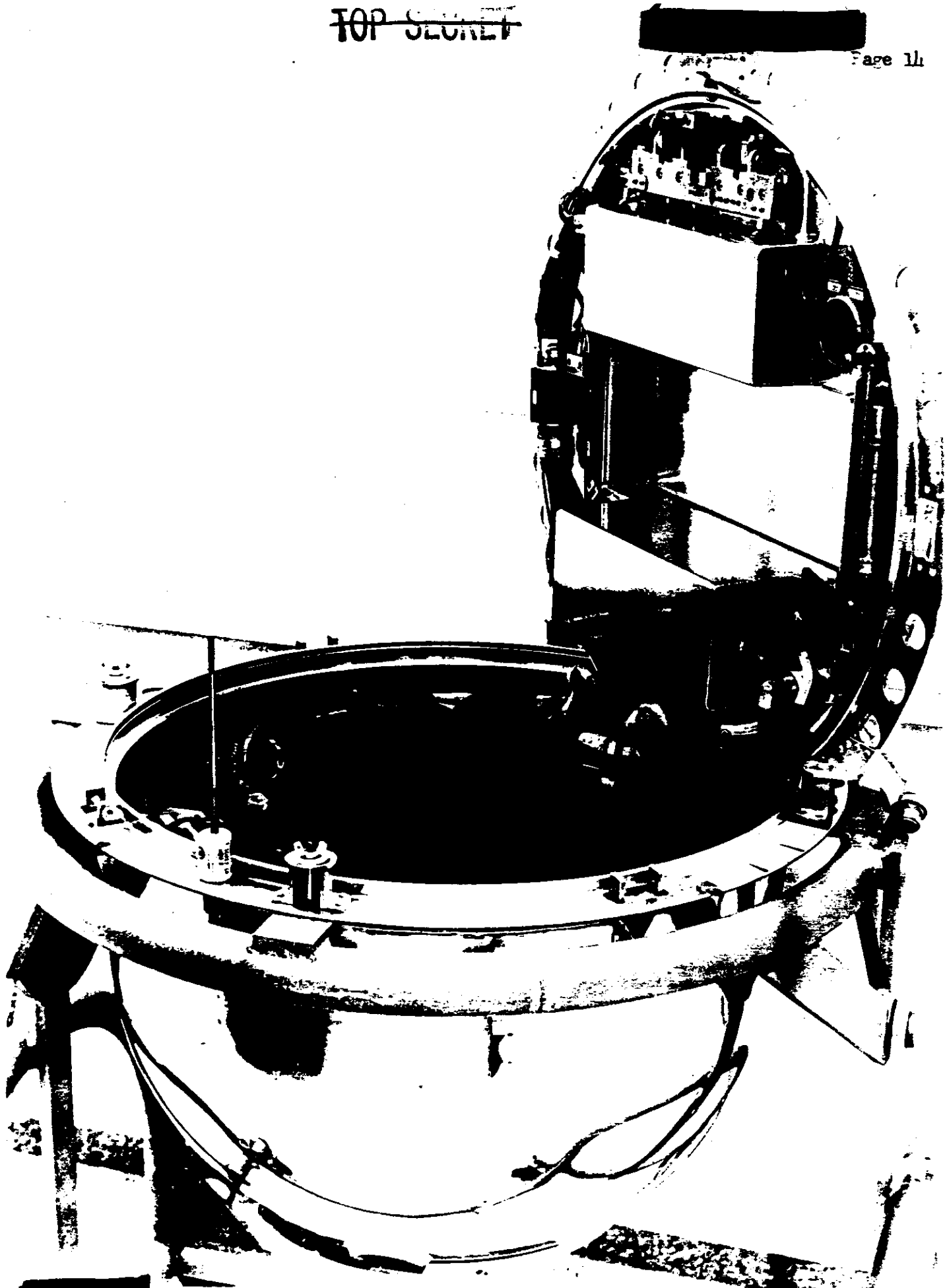
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RECOVERY VEHICLE COMPLETE. RETRO ROCKET MOTOR AT TOP

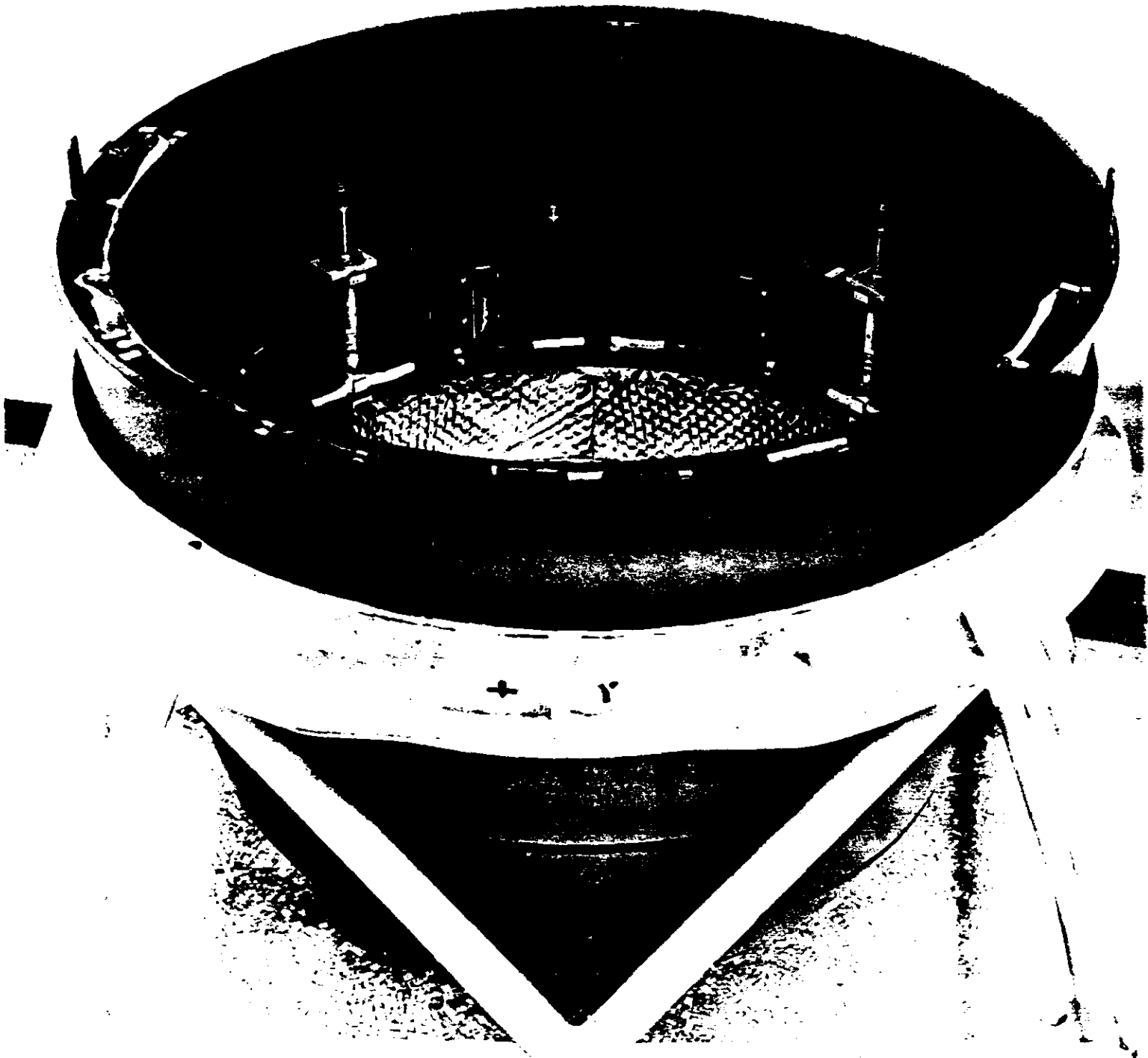
HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY



HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]
CONTROL SYSTEM ON RECOVERY CAPSULE (DISIC WATER SEAL AT TOP)

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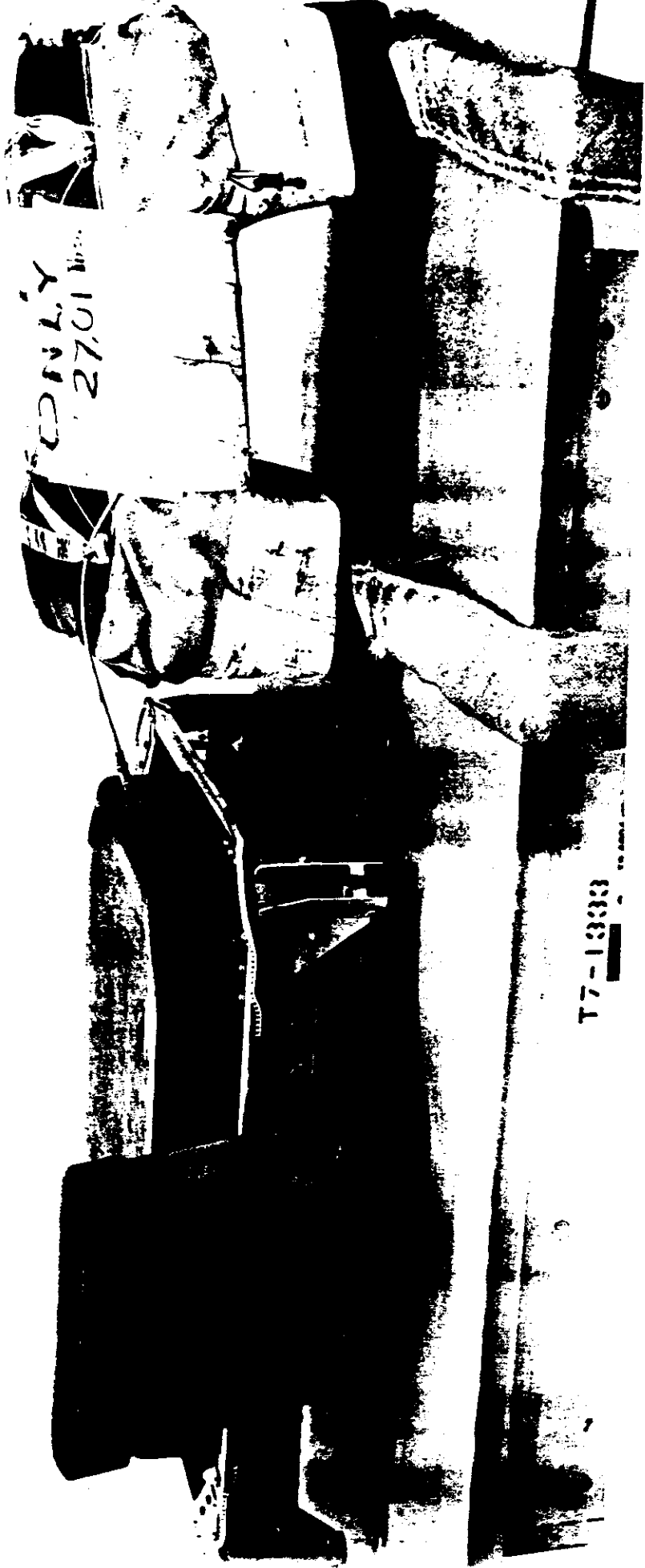


ALTERNATIVE FOREBODY (RE-ENTRY THERMAL SHIELD)

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PARACHUTE COVER WITH SECTION OF DISC CHUTE ATTACHED. RECOVERY PARACHUTE ON RIGHT.

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