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31 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted] DFD-DD/P

SUBJECT: Trip Report - Resultant NPIC Recommendations Concerning the Auxiliary Framing Camera for the MURAL Program

1. Purpose - The purpose of the meeting, called by Itak, was to discuss procedures and techniques to be incorporated relative to the auxiliary framing camera in the MURAL program. Cartographic and intelligence users were represented.

2. Attendance - [redacted] and [redacted] of NPIC; [redacted] from ACIC; and Itak representation included Messrs. Levison, Wolfe and [redacted]

3. NPIC recommendations as a result of these discussions are as follows:

a. Dependent Camera Operation. It is recommended that the operation of the auxiliary framing camera be dependent on the dual stereo panoramic system; i.e., the same on - off times. [redacted] of ACIC indicated this would be satisfactory provided that engineering passes could be provided of Canada/United States preferably, or over Western Europe in order to have sufficient ground control to help in improving ephemerides data. It is further recommended that consideration be given to independent operation of the auxiliary framing camera as a follow-on modification to improve its capabilities.

b. Relative Camera Orientation Procedures. NPIC discussed a theodolite procedure similar to procedures presently used. The problem here is that fairing deformation and other problems give little assurance that the established relative orientation of cameras would be valid in space. NPIC recommends that LMEB determine if a pre-launch procedure would provide useful data. NPIC's need, in regard to relative orientation of the auxiliary camera to the dual stereo panoramic system, is not a need of high precision; perhaps, 15 - 30 minutes of arc would be sufficient.

c. Auxiliary Camera Frame Time. It is recommended that initially the time of exposure, when possible, be indicated on the panoramic cameras, possibly as null timing marks, and that consideration be given for a follow-on modification to provide binary time on all frames. (This would require a third head on the binary reader.)

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d. Lens Calibration Procedures. NPIC recommends a stellar procedure for this calibration that could be adapted from the procedures used on the "A" program.

e. Data Chamber. A data chamber is not required.

f. Reseau. Diamond cutting and metal evaporation processes are being considered by Itak. NPIC requests samples and recommendations from Itak on Reseau calibration procedures.

g. Film Used. The two films being considered are S.O. 130 and S.O. 132. A choice, of course, will be a function of latitudes and dates, etc.

4. The NPIC recommendations shown, it is believed, are contemporaneous with the ACIC recommendations that [redacted] will submit to [redacted]. The NPIC recommendations are made with the knowledge that the prime mission of the MURAL program is reconnaissance.

151

[redacted]
Acting Chief, Technical Development Branch
Technical Plans and Development Staff
National Photographic Interpretation Center

Director, NPIC

Date

Operations Officer, NPIC

Date

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[redacted] af, TR&DS/NPIC

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