

~~SECRET~~



In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on

NOV 28 1997

22 January 1962

copy [redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Security Branch, DPD-DD/P

SUBJECT : Trip Report Westover AFB, Mass., 9 Jan 62

1. The writer in the company of [redacted] DB/DPD, and [redacted] Intell Branch, departed International Airport 9:05 a.m. 9 Jan 62 and arrived Hartford-Springfield Airport at 10:30 a.m. After an unavoidable delay we rented a car and drove to Westover AFB, arriving there at 12:30 p.m. On arrival we met [redacted] and [redacted] who introduced us to [redacted] and [redacted] all assigned to the 6594th Test Sqd and the principle officers responsible for the Satellite Photographic Processing Lab.

2. After lunch we were given a briefing on the functions, responsibilities and goals of the SPPL by [redacted]. [redacted] explained that the SPPL was formed at the direction of the Under Secretary of the Air Force and is a staff function reporting directly to [redacted] who reports directly to Dr. Charyk. This is rather unique since the normal reporting channel would be through [redacted] at 6594 Test Wing, Satellite Test Center Sunnyvale, Cal and Gen. Rifland at AFPC/SSD, Los Angeles, Cal. [redacted] and [redacted] followed with a briefing on the technical aspects of the projects and the equipment in house at SPPL. We were then given a tour of the facility which included inspection of the rooms housing processing, technical storage, viewing, printing, data reduction, communications and storage of take.

3. The facility is located on Westover AFB proper near the flight line along other office and shop buildings. Westover is a SAC base and has the routine SAC outer perimeter security precautions. The facility is housed in a temporary wooden structure built, I understand, approximately 5 years ago. SPPL shares the building with the 8th Recon. Tech. Sqd. and that organizations' designator appears over the entrance to the building. The building is in good repair and appears satisfactorily substantial.

under block & Councils construction

4. Immediately inside the entrance is a guard post where badges are inspected and visitor control enforced. All visitors are required to sign in and are given a visitor badge. This permits access to the non-sensitive office and work areas of the SPPL and the 8th Recon Tech Sqd. Entrance to the area where the 8th R. T. people are working on T and KH material and to the vault where both are stored, is by personal recognition through a window

RI/DPD

~~SECRET~~

This document contains information referring to Project CORONA

in a locked door. When a person assigned to the 8th R.T. or SPPL receives T or KH he is photographed and his picture placed with those of other cleared people on a board hung on the wall next to the entrance. At the entrance to the SPPL area the badge obtained at the entrance to the building is exchanged at a guard post for a special closed area badge. The SPPL now occupies approximately 15,000 sq. ft. of space in the building and approximately 7% of that is closed area. Access is restricted to those people who work daily in the closed area and those other SPPL people having a need to know. Visitor access is subject to the approval of [redacted] [redacted] advised that visitor traffic is minimal as they have not advertised the facility and openly discourage tourists.

5. [redacted] advised he has 108 people now working at SPPL and that 62 of them are T/KH briefed. He added that his full complement will be 142 people and that he anticipates T/KH briefing approximately 30 additional people. This is exclusive of the 8th R. T. people now handling T and KH material in the special section of the building. T and KH material there is stored at night in a vault with combination lock on the door.

6. The SPPL has a security officer in the person of Capt. [redacted] USAF. [redacted] is also the T Security Officer. [redacted] is a young, aggressive officer who is apparently competent in his job. He is responsible to [redacted] for the security of SPPL. When the SPPL becomes operational [redacted] will no doubt be the control point for visitors and as such will be in communication with [redacted] EPIC Security Officer. [redacted] may have some contact with LPD if we support the movement of SANDS take from [redacted] to Westover AFB to EPIC but will definitely have contact with this division if CORONA take is processed at SPPL.

7. There is a commo facility at SPPL consisting of what appeared to be one on-line machine. This is tied into the Satellite Test Center, Sunnyvale, Cal., AFSC/SSD, Los Angeles, Cal. and [redacted] office in the Pentagon. From casual observation it would seem that no severe security problems would inhibit the installation of additional equipment and tie in with the [redacted] network.

8. SPPL has its own data reduction equipment for reading out frame numbers, position in space, altitude, etc. One piece of the equipment is designed to transmit data from cards inserted at SPPL to a receiving machine at SEC, Sunnyvale, Cal. and likewise receive data from the machine at SEC. The data is sent in the clear which presents problems for our program. CORONA information of this nature has been hand carried by courier.

9. The visiting group departed SPFL at 5:00 p.m. in order to make a 6:30 p.m. plane from Hartford-Springfield Airport. [redacted] and [redacted] joined the party for the return flight.

10. The writer was sincerely impressed with the SPFL facility and noted with particular delight the cleanliness of the facility, the apparent high level of competence of the personnel assigned and the keen sense of morale and purpose displayed by each officer who addressed the group. This type atmosphere is most conducive to good security. If it is decided that COMINT tasks be processed at SPFL I anticipate few, if any, serious security problems.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]