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MAR 31 23 42 '64

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PRIORITY [REDACTED] INFO [REDACTED] CITE [REDACTED]

0065A

ARGON

REF: A. [REDACTED]
B. [REDACTED]

1. CONCUR WITH PARA 2 OF REF A. PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS MISSION SHOULD BE LONG TIES OF NORTHERN HEMISPHERE DATUMS, WITH SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE TIES AS SECONDARY PURPOSE. ALL POSSIBLE COVERAGE OF NORTHERN HEMISPHERE MAJOR LAND SHOULD BE OBTAINED INCLUDING TURN-ON AT THE LOWER SOLAR ANGLE ENABLED BY THE 1/250 SECOND PROGRAMMABLE EXPOSURE.

2. A LAUNCH TIME EARLIER THAN 1800Z HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN RECOMMENDED TO INCREASE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE COVERAGE (REF B).

3. SHOULD AN 1800Z LAUNCH BE ADOPTED, HOWEVER, COVERAGE OF AFRICA AND SOUTH AMERICA WILL ASSIST IN NORTHERN HEMISPHERE TIES. THESE CONTINENTS HAVE BEEN CONNECTED TO NORTHERN HEMISPHERE DATUMS BY CONVENTIONAL METHODS, AND THEIR COVERAGE BY THIS MISSION WILL FURNISH AN ADDITIONAL ANCHOR FOR SOME PASSES. THUS WE RECOMMEND THE PROGRAMMED EXCLUSION OF OPEN WATER AREAS AS NECESSARY TO MAXIMIZE MAJOR LAND MASS COVERAGE. THIS IS CONSIDERED PREFERABLE TO THE ARBITRARY TERMINATION OF PASSES AT A SELECTED LATITUDE BY DAYS, AND GREATLY PREFERABLE TO ELIMINATION OF COVERAGE IN THE VICINITY OF THE NORTH TANGENCY LATITUDE.

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END OF MESSAGE

VMW

Declassified and Released by the NRO

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

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