

~~TOP SECRET~~



PRIORITY

EYES ONLY

[REDACTED]

PRIORITY

~~TOP SECRET~~ 171659Z

PRIORITY [REDACTED]

REF A. [REDACTED]

EYES ONLY - COL. MURPHY.

1. I FEEL IT IS TIME TO DISCUSS SEVERAL ITEMS WITH YOU IN ORDER THAT WE CAN SOLIDIFY OUR THINKING AND HAVE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING ON THESE SUBJECTS:

A. MISSION 1002 WILL BE FLOWN WITHIN THE FOLLOWING PARAMETERS: PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE FIRST PORTION IS TO OBTAIN MAXIMUM INTELLIGENCE AND DECISIONS WILL BE WEIGHED AGAINST WEATHER AND TARGETING. THEREFORE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT AS MANY AS 4 DAYS ON ORBIT COULD TRANSPIRE BEFORE RECOVERY. THE HARDWARE WILL THEN BE PLACED IN THE "ZOMBIE" MODE FOR A MINIMUM OF 3 DAYS WITH THE MAXIMUM "ZOMBIE" PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 7 DAYS. THE PRIME OBJECTIVE OF THE SECOND BUCKET WILL BE TO RECOVER THIS FOR EXAMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF R&D EFFORT. IT IS HIGHLY POSSIBLE THAT IN VIEW OF CLIMATE STUDIES FOR THE PERIOD OF THE MISSION, THAT SOME FILM WILL HAVE TO BE LEFT IN THE BIRD UNLESS WE JUST RUN IT OUT IN THE MOST EXPEDIENT MANNER. I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO WORRY ABOUT OUR FAILURE TO COMPLETELY USE ALL FILM FOR SECOND MISSION. HOWEVER, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR

Declassified and Released by the NRO

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED] PAGE - 2

COMMENTS ON ADVISABILITY OF ATTEMPTING TO CUT FILM PRIOR TO RECOVERY.

B. I HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND A MEETING ON 19 SEP DEALING WITH THE PROPOSALS FOR "J" TYPE CONFIGURATIONS ON "L" AND [REDACTED] VEHICLES. THERE HAS BEEN A RECOMMENDATION THAT 2 "L" TYPE CAMERAS BE LAUNCHED ON A ATLAS VEHICLE TO PROVIDE BETTER SEARCH CAPABILITY WITH HIGHER RESOLUTIONS. TO MINIMIZE COST, THE "J" CONFIGURATION HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED AND, I FEEL THAT IT IS FEASIBLE, PROVIDING, OF COURSE, THE PRESENT SYSTEM WORKS SATISFACTORILY. "I AM OF THE OPINION THAT THE L/J TYPE CONFIGURATION WOULD BE LAUNCHED IN A RETRO-GRADE ORBIT AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ADVANTAGES OF THIS TYPE ORBIT AND YOUR FEELING OR YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE CAPABILITY OF EVER LAUNCHING THE CORONA J INTO A RETRO-GRADE ORBIT WITHIN THE LIFE OF THE PRESENT NUMBER OF FIRINGS THAT ARE SCHEDULED."

I AM A LITTLE BIT CONCERNED ON THE TYPE PROGRAMMER THAT SHOULD BE USED. DNRO HAS EXPRESSED A FEELING THAT PROBABLY A SIMILAR PROGRAMMER TO THAT USED IN THE [REDACTED] VEHICLE BE USED ON THE "L". YOU MAY HAVE BEEN THINKING OF THIS PROBLEM FOR THE 40 SELECT CAPABILITY MESSAGE WAS RECENTLY TRANSMITTED TO US. I WOULD APPREICATE ANY IDEAS YOU MAY HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT NOT

[REDACTED] PAGE - 3

LATER THAN 1200Z, ON THE 19TH. IN REGARD TO REF. A, THE AGENCY HAS INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO INSTALL ANY TYPE OF DATA TERMINAL YOU FEEL YOU WOULD NEED AT THE [REDACTED] COMPLEX. RECENTLY, I VISITED THE [REDACTED] AND WITNESSED A DEMONSTRATION OF THE 1004 EQUIPMENT WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE INSTALLED HERE APPROXIMATELY 1 NOVEMBER. THE RATE OF TRANSMISSION AMAZED ME AND I FEEL THAT IF YOU HAVE THE SPACE THIS, OF COURSE, WOULD BE THE BEST EQUIPMENT TO USE. HOWEVER, WE ARE WILLING TO USE ANYTHING THAT WOULD BE COMPATIBLE. THE AF EQUIPMENT WE ARE GOING TO INSTALL WITH [REDACTED] IS ONLY ON A TEMPORARY BASIS UNTIL ENCRYPTIC AND DECRYPTIC EQUIPMENT IS CERTIFIED FOR THE 1004. PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT NO PROBLEM EXISTS IN THIS AREA AND WITH THE AGENCY PRIORITY, 1004 EQUIPMENT COULD BE PLACED AT YOUR FACILITY APPROXIMATELY THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. CONTRACT MAINTENANCE IS AVAILABLE IN THE SAN FRANCISCO AREA AND INDICATIONS ARE THAT YOU WOULD NOT HAVE A PROBLEM IN THIS AREA. I WILL DISCUSS THIS AT GREATER LENGTHS WITH [REDACTED] THIS WEEK AND YOU COULD MAKE YOUR DESIRES KNOWN THROUGH CABLE TRAFFIC ON THIS MATTER. I FEEL IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE GO INTO A DATA LINK BETWEEN OUR STATIONS AND WE ARE PLANNING TO USE IT THROUGHOUT THE NRO.

~~TOP SECRET~~

END OF MESSAGE

~~TOP SECRET~~