

~~TOP SECRET~~



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

7 Aug 64

~~General Stewart~~

Attached are two suggested press responses which were contributed by the CIA member of the Contingency Cover Group. He suggests that Response #1 be effected immediately. Response #2 could be issued at a somewhat later date if the situation continues to be pressing.

The data contained in Response #2 is identical with that information which we have furnished for the benefit of the U.N. Registry for Space Objects.

I feel that these are both very good and would like to submit them in response to the task you gave me this morning.

Handle via ~~DISSEM~~
Control System

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Internal



Proposed Press Response #1

⁷⁻²²⁻⁶⁴ [portions] of a space vehicle
 Charred remains of ~~the capsule~~ which impacted in
 Venezuela late in May have been tentatively identified as being
 of U.S. origin. ~~The~~ ^{authorities are} Venezuelan ~~government~~ ^{are} turning ~~over~~ ^{recovered} remains
~~of the capsule~~ ^{portions} over to U.S. authorities for examination to
~~determine which specific vehicle is involved.~~

Mr. Mazza 10 Aug

Discussed with Dr M on 7 Aug.
 No wrap avoid the word "capsule"
 should be avoided. Above is
 OK, but Dr M should be
 informed before release. Release only
 if necessary
 State and Agency should
 be apprised before release.