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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

16 OCT 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR The Assistant Secretary of the Army (R&D)

SUBJECT: Calibration of Stellar/Indexing Camera Subsystem (S/I)

Reference: ~~(TS)~~ Department of Army memo, subject: Calibration of Cartographic Cameras, dtd 4 Oct 62

As you know, the small framing camera which has been flown in the CORONA project since early 1962 was not designed as a cartographic collection system. This unit, which has been a secondary mission item within the CORONA project, was included specifically for the purpose of providing additional vehicle orientation information and to serve as an indexing aid to users in the intelligence readout process. Upon establishment of this additional, secondary part of the CORONA configuration, arrangements were made for the calibration of this equipment by use of the resources at the ACIC.

Subsequent to its incorporation into the CORONA project, cartographic personnel of all three services have indicated considerable interest in the modification of this indexing unit to increase its value in cartographic applications. As a result, coincident with certain necessary modification of the basic camera unit to correct earlier design deficiencies, a stellar unit has been added. The meeting to which you refer was held at NPIC on 18 September 1962 for the purpose of discussing the additional calibration requirements imposed by the incorporation of the stellar unit. Subsequent to this meeting, and in accordance with the discussion at the meeting the inclosed S/I calibration SOP has been adopted by the NRO.

Since the basic calibration arrangements, established prior to such cartographic considerations, are working well, and since the additional calibration measures required by inclusion of the stellar unit can easily be accomplished by utilization of the same resources with

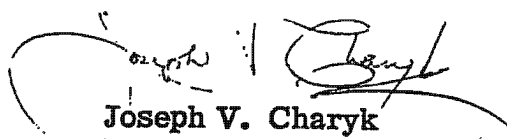
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relatively simple modifications to the existing procedures, and since ACIC has already made such calibration of the first S/I flight article, I can see no particular reason why we should at this stage change to different DOD calibration facilities. However, in the case of future systems designed primarily for cartographic applications, the Army Ballistics Measurement Laboratory will certainly receive full consideration by the NRO in the selection of resources and establishment of procedures to accomplish the necessary calibration.



Joseph V. Charyk
Director
(S) National Reconnaissance Office

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