

~~TOP SECRET~~

HANDLE VIA  
**BYEMAN**  
CONTRDL SYSTEM  
GAMBIT

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.



August 26, 1968

THE NRO STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ~~FLAX~~ <sup>atf</sup>

SUBJECT: Project Van Winkle

You will recall that on August 25, 1967 you asked CINCSAC to provide the necessary support at Vandenberg AFB for implementation of Project Van Winkle -- which is the long-term storage of Program 206 (GAMBIT) satellite vehicles (Tab A). You also asked CINCSAC to ensure that each succeeding commander of Strategic Air Command and commander of Vandenberg AFB be made aware of Project Van Winkle and all restrictions related thereto.

At Tab B is a letter from General Holloway assuring you that he and General Carlton understand, and will execute, their responsibilities with regard to Project Van Winkle.

*John R. Meceda*  
JOHN R. MECEDA  
Captain, USAF

*By Bug  
Holloway  
26 Aug*

GAMBIT  
HANDLE VIA  
**BYEMAN**  
CONTROL SYSTEM

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DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

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BYE-16625-68

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON



Office of the Assistant Secretary

August 25, 1967

SUBJ: Long Term Storage of Program 206 Equipment at Vandenberg AFB  
(Project Van Winkle)

TO: Commander  
Strategic Air Command  
Offutt Air Force Base  
Omaha, Nebraska

1. Two sets of certain classified satellite hardware from Program 206 are being readied for long term storage at Vandenberg AFB. It is intended that this hardware be released to the Air Force Museum and the Smithsonian Institute for display purposes at some future date to be determined by the Secretary of the Air Force.

2. In order to facilitate storing this hardware for an indefinite period, it is requested that a suitable storage site be arranged at Vandenberg AFB which will provide approximately 750 sq. ft. of secure storage space at minimal cost. Once the storage site has been selected and approved by the Director of Special Projects, OSAF, and the hardware containers put in place, the storage site must not be changed without prior written approval from the Secretary of the Air Force.

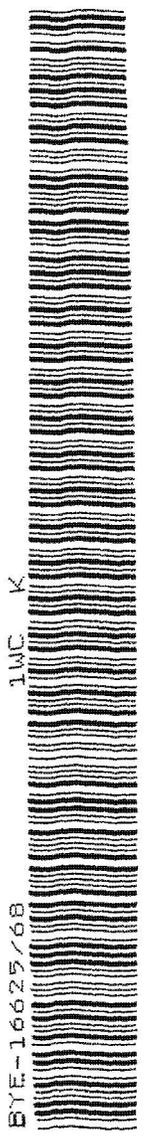
3. Due to the sensitive nature of this equipment, it is mandatory that positive security control be established and maintained to preclude forceable or accidental opening of the containers. The external view of the storage containers will be unclassified. Two plaques will be placed on each container indicating the contents are non-explosive and non-hazardous and that Secretary of the Air Force approval is required to move or open the containers.

4. Request you advise the Director of Special Projects, OSAF, Los Angeles, California, of the storage site selected so that appropriate arrangements can be made to have this hardware delivered for storage. You are also requested to take necessary action to insure that each succeeding commander of Strategic Air Command, and commander of Vandenberg Air Force Base are made aware of this storage and all restrictions related thereto.

/s/  
ALEXANDER H. FLAX

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lwc



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Controls Only

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND  
OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, NEBRASKA, 68113



REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: CINC

9 AUG 1968

SUBJECT: Project Van Winkle



TO: Director, (S) National Reconnaissance Office

1. The actions requested in your 25 August 1967 letter regarding long term storage of Program 206 equipment at Vandenberg AFB have been completed. Building 1538 on Vandenberg AFB is the storage facility and has been approved for this purpose by the Director of Special Projects, OSAF.

2. Action has been taken to insure that each succeeding Commander of the Strategic Air Command, and the Commander, 1 Strategic Aerospace Division, Vandenberg AFB is aware of this storage and all restrictions related thereto. General Carlton, new Commander, 1 STRATAD and I have been briefed and understand our responsibilities.

*B. K. Holloway*  
B. K. HOLLOWAY, General, USAF  
Commander in Chief

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