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GAMBIT

FOR DR. NAKA FROM GEN KING.

1. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR VISIT TO LOS ANGELES, I HAVE TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW WITH MR. GEORGE AND MR. SELBY THE IMPACT OF THE GE STRIKE ON THE GAMBIT LAUNCH SCHEDULE.
2. AT PRESENT THERE ARE THREE COMMAND SYSTEMS AT LMSC TO SUPPORT GAMBIT VEHICLES 25, 26, AND 27. TWO ADDITIONAL SYSTEMS ARE COMPLETELY ASSEMBLED AND IN TEST IN UTICA WITH NON-UNION PERSONNEL. ONE OF THESE IS SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY LATE IN DECEMBER TO SUPPORT VEHICLE 28 AND THE SECOND IS SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY EARLY IN JANUARY TO SUPPORT VEHICLE 29. VEHICLE 29 IS SCHEDULED FOR LAUNCH IN JULY 1970.
3. COMPONENTS AND MODULES ARE AVAILABLE FOR TWO ADDITIONAL SYSTEMS WHICH CAN BE ASSEMBLED AND TESTED LARGELY WITH NON-UNION PERSONNEL. DELIVERY OF THESE SYSTEMS AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN ASSEMBLED AND TESTED SHOULD BE IN FEBRUARY 1970 TO SUPPORT VEHICLES 30 AND 31 FOR LAUNCH IN OCTOBER 1970 AND FEBRUARY 1971 RESPECTIVELY.
4. THE NEXT COMMAND SYSTEM REQUIRED TO SUPPORT A VEHICLE 32

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LAUNCH IN APRIL 1971 WILL REQUIRE UNION PERSONNEL FOR FABRICATION. THERE IS ABOUT ONE YEAR LEAD TIME FROM START OF FABRICATION UNTIL LAUNCH AND THIS UNIT SHOULD BEGIN FABRICATION BY APRIL 1970. THIS ALLOCATION DOES NOT INCLUDE A SPARE UNIT OR SUPPORT A PIPELINE COMMAND SYSTEM FOR VEHICLE 32.

5. IT IS MY ESTIMATE THAT THE COMMAND SYSTEM FOR VEHICLE 32 SHOULD BEGIN FABRICATION NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1970 AND A CONTINUANCE OF THE STRIKE, OR ITS EFFECTS, BEYOND JANUARY 1970 COULD IMPACT OUR LAUNCH SCHEDULES. MR. GEORGE AND MR. SELBY HAVE REPORTED TO ME THAT ADDITIONAL UNION PERSONNEL ARE RETURNING DAILY, THAT THEY ARE CONTINUING TO UPDATE THEIR SKILLS INVENTORY, AND THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP ME ADVISED OF THE IMPACT AS THE STRIKE PROGRESSES.

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