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ALLOT PASS BISON

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IMMEDIATE BISON.
HANDLE VIA BYEMAN CONTROL CHANNELS ONLY
HEXAGON/GAMBIT
FOR GENERAL KULPA FROM FROM MR. HILL
SUBJECT: SALT II OPTIONS

- REFERENCES: A. [] 1205, 17 OCTOBER 1978
 B. BISON 9439, 19 OCTOBER 1978
 C. [] 1244, 24 OCTOBER 1978

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

1. THE ADMINISTRATION IS CONTINUING TO EVOLVE ITS RESPONSE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTION TO PROVIDE IMPROVED SALT II VERIFICATION OPTIONS IN THE FY 79 BUDGET. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO REVIEW ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THIS EFFORT AND TO ASSIGN ADDITIONAL ACTIONS.

2. A MEETING WAS HELD YESTERDAY TO REVIEW THE EXISTING OPTIONS AND REQUEST ADDITIONAL ONES. JOHN KOEHLER, D/DCI/RM, WAS THE CHAIRMAN; NRO OMB, CIA, ICS, NSC, AND DOD WERE REPRESENTED. I INDICATED THAT OPTIONS FOR ACCELERATING HEXAGON LAUNCHES, ENHANCING THE [] PROGRAM, AND INCREASING THE READINESS POSTURE OF GAMBIT WERE BEING WORKED. SEVERAL OF THE ATTENDEES EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF CC&D, INCLUDING A NEAR-TERM [] CAPABILITY. OMB WAS INTERESTED IN ADDED OPTIONS TO INCREASE HEXAGON [] LAUNCH READINESS. NON-PROGRAM A AND NON-NRP OPTIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. THE ACTION PLANNED FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS IS:

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

- A. 27 OCTOBER: ICS WILL PROVIDE OPTION DESCRIPTIONS AND SCHEDULES TO THE USER COMMUNITY AND TO THE NRO STAFF.
- B. 27 OCTOBER-1200 EST/30 OCTOBER: NRO STAFF REVIEW OPTIONS FOR TECHNICAL ACCURACY AND ADD COST DATA. USER COMMUNITY REVIEW FOR INTELLIGENCE UTILITY.
- C. 1330 EST/30 OCTOBER: THE SAME GROUP WILL MEET TO PREPARE OPTIONS FOR THE DCI.
- D. 31 OCTOBER: DCI WILL PROVIDE OPTIONS TO NFIB FOR COMMENT BY 2 NOVEMBER.

3. I WOULD PREFER, OF COURSE, THAT A MORE DELIBERATE COURSE COULD BE TAKEN TO DEVELOP THESE OPTIONS AND PRESENT THEM TO CONGRESS, BUT THE NRP IS NOT THE ONLY PROGRAM UNDER CONSIDERATION AND THE NRO IS NOT IN CHARGE OF THE OVERALL EFFORT. PART OF THE URGENCY IS DUE TO

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THE DCI'S PENDING FY 80 BUDGET DECISIONS, AND THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF THESE OPTIONS ON THOSE DECISIONS.

4. IN YOUR NARRATIVE FOR EACH OF THE ALTERNATIVES BELOW, PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

A. TECHNICAL DISCUSSION (INCLUDE GROUNDRULES, RISK, ADVANTAGES, AND DISADVANTAGES).

B. SCHEDULE.

C. ADDITIONAL COST INCURRED (PROVIDE NOT TO EXCEED ESTIMATES FOR FY 79 AND FY 80).

IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT MUCH OF THE DATA HAS BEEN PROVIDED INFORMALLY (VERBAL/DACOM) OR WAS PART OF A PREVIOUS SUBMISSION; HOWEVER, DUE TO THE APPLICATION OF THIS DATA AS DISCUSSED IN PARAGRAPH 2, A FORMAL SUBMITTAL IS REQUIRED. OUR SUSPENSE IS 1230 EST ON 30 OCTOBER 1978. TO SUPPORT THIS, YOUR INPUT SHOULD ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 1130 EST ON 30 OCTOBER. ADHERENCE TO METHOD OF PRESENTATION IS REQUIRED SINCE NO TIME WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MODIFY YOUR INPUT. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND INTEREST WILL BE EXHIBITED; THEREFORE, REFINEMENT OF YOUR 30 OCTOBER SUBMITTAL (INCLUDING OUT YEAR COSTS) SHOULD CONTINUE IN SUPPORT OF THE 7 NOVEMBER DATE REQUESTED IN [] 1244.

5. ALTERNATIVES.

A. ACCELERATE HEXAGON LAUNCH SCHEDULE. PROVIDE MORE HEXAGON FLIGHTS IN THE 1979 TO 81 TIME PERIOD.

[]

C. IMPROVED CALLUP STATUS OF GAMBIT. LAUNCH 20 DAYS AFTER NOTIFICATION.

D. IMPROVED CALLUP STATUS OF HEXAGON. FOR AN AVAILABLE VEHICLE, IMPROVE THE ABILITY TO LAUNCH ON REQUEST TO THE MINIMUM FEASIBLE.

[]

E.

[] COULD ENHANCE SALT MONITORING.

(1) []

(2) []

F. CAMOUFLAGE, CONCEALMENT AND DECEPTION (CC&D). ALTERNATIVES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED SEPARATELY FOR GAMBIT AND HEXAGON.

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