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CATOR 783  
CATOR PASS CHARGE

AA 2564

*Handwritten signature and initials*

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MADE BY BYEMAN  
CATOR 783

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PRIORITY CHARGE INFO PRIORITY WAHOO.  
HEXAGON

WORKING COPY

CHARGE FOR MAJ GEN BRADBURN, COL ANDERSON; WAHOO FOR  
FROM COL WHEELER

SUBJECT: HEXAGON MAPPING CAPABILITY

1. BASED ON THEIR EVALUATION OF THE COST/RISK/  
EFFECTIVENESS TRADE, ETHER HAS DECIDED THAT THEIR  
RESOURCES CAN BE BEST USED BY DECIDING NOW THAT NO MORE  
KWACORN MAPPING CAMERAS WILL BE PROCURED AFTER THE  
CURRENT 12. THEY WOULD PROPOSE THAT YOU CONDUCT A  
STUDY WITH \$500K PROVIDED BY THEM, STARTING NOW AND  
LASTING UNTIL OCTOBER 1975 OR UNTIL A BEST APPROACH  
HAD BEEN DEFINED, WHICHEVER CAME FIRST. THE OBJECTIVE  
OF THE STUDY WOULD BE TO DEFINE A MODIFICATION TO THE

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HEXAGON SYSTEM WHICH WOULD ALLOW GEOPositionING  
ACCURACIES WITH THE PAN SYSTEM EQUAL TO OR BETTER THAN  
THAT POSSIBLE WITH THE PRESENT MAPPING CAMERA. THE STUDY  
WOULD BE DETAILED ENOUGH TO ALLOW EVALUATION OF THE  
TECHNICAL, SCHEDULE AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND  
RISKS, AND WOULD CULMINATE IN A COST PROPOSAL FOR  
INCORPORATING THE METRIC PAN MODIFICATION AS EARLY AS  
POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN SV-17.

2. SINCE ETHER'S PLAN REQUIRES A DECISION TO NOT HAVE  
NCS'S ON SV-17 AND 18, WE HAVE INFORMED THEM THAT AS  
THERE IS A FINITE POSSIBILITY THAT THE STUDY WILL SHOW  
THAT A METRIC PAN OF THE REQUIRED ACCURACY IS INFEASIBLE  
FOR SV-17 AND 18, THOSE UNITS MIGHT BE WITHOUT ANY METRIC  
MAPPING CAPABILITY. SINCE THE SUCCESS OF THE ETHER  
PLAN DEPENDS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE STUDY WILL  
DEFINE A FEASIBLE DESIGN APPROACH, REQUEST YOU ASSESS  
THE RISK OF FAILURE OF THE STUDY TO DEFINE A FEASIBLE  
METRIC PAN APPROACH.

3. REQUEST YOU PROVIDE THIS RISK ASSESSMENT BY MESSAGE  
NLT 26 DECEMBER 1975, SO THAT MR. PLUMMER CAN HAVE IT  
IN HAND WHEN HE IS BRIEFED BY ETHER.

E-2 IMPDET

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