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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

OFFICE OF
THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY)

BYE 0257-64

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8 September 1964

Dr. Brockway McMillan
Director
National Reconnaissance Office
Washington, D. C.

Dear Brock:

We are now charged with exploring the technical and system feasibility for several photographic and electronic satellite reconnaissance systems. In the FULCRUM high resolution search system, we have been urged by Mr. McCone to examine how the present payload system based on a Titan 2 booster can be enhanced or insured by utilizing the greater payload capability of the Titan 3.

especially in the more complex follow-on versions. In our examination of the ZOSTER read-out system, we will probably have to rely on the superior payload capability of Titan 3 for low and medium orbital altitudes.

Thus far we have received only an introductory briefing on Titan 3 by NRO. What we need now is authoritative design and performance data for Titan 3 in its various configurations, together with firm planning schedules for its operational availability at both AMR and PMR. Our first requirement is to have confident estimates of the payload capability of Titan 3 for various orbital altitudes and inclinations. In this connection we note that present payload estimates for synchronous orbits vary from 1100 to 2200 pounds which is certainly too large a spread for our purposes. We must also know what the powered flight vibration and acceleration profiles are expected to be, along with a vast amount of other relevant technical data.

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Such information is ordinarily contained in Air Force and contractor reports which are the continuing, authoritative record of a large missile program. If we are to be responsive to our direction to explore Titan 3 enthusiastically, it is essential that CIA DD/S&T be put on routine distribution for all such documents and acquire a library of existing reports as soon as possible. We also need to have ready and continuing access to the responsible Air Force Project Office and to whatever group is responsible for systems engineering in this program. I believe that this access should be established under the aegis of NRO, and would be most grateful if you could arrange for it.

Sincerely,

Albert D. Wheelon

**Albert D. Wheelon
Deputy Director**

- cc.
- Mr. McCone
- Mr. Vance
- General Carter
- Dr. Fubini

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