

~~SECRET~~ HEXAGON

KEY MILESTONES
IN
FULCRUM/HEXAGON PROGRAM

- MAY/JUNE 1963 DCI CONVENES PURCELL PANEL TO DETERMINE FUTURE ROLE AND POSTURE OF U.S. RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM
- JANUARY 1964 CIA STUDY EMPLOYING 25 PI'S TO ASCERTAIN RESOLUTION REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY MAJORITY USIB TARGETS
- FEBRUARY 1964 CIA FUNDS ITEK STUDY TO DETERMINE FEASIBILITY AND POTENTIAL INTELLIGENCE VALUE OF VARIOUS SENSORS IN SATELLITES
- MAY 1964 STUDIES CONCLUDE THAT WIDE AREA COVERAGE CONSISTENT WITH HIGH RESOLUTION WAS REQUIRED AND PROPOSAL FOR SUCH A SYSTEM BRIEFED TO DNRO
- JUNE 1964 DCI CONVENES LAND PANEL TO CRITICALLY EXAMINE CIA PROPOSED SYSTEM. PANEL RECOMMENDED THAT IT BE VIGOROUSLY EXPLORED WITH TECHNICAL EMPHASIS IN A SIX MONTH, PHASE I EFFORT TO ASSESS:

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- A. HIGH SPEED FILM TRANSPORT
- B. STABILITY AND NOISE OF CAMERA BEARINGS
- C. WEIGHT COMPATIBILITY TO TITAN II
- D. COMPONENTS OF ANGULAR MOMENTUM ASSOCIATED WITH THE ROTATING CAMERA AND THE HIGH SPEED FILM SUPPLY

JULY 1964

PHASE I BEGINS WITH ITEK AND PERKIN-ELMER WORKING ON CAMERA DESIGNS

AUGUST 1964

AIR FORCE INITIATES COMPETING DESIGNS EASTMAN-KODAK AND ITEK

FEBRUARY 1965

LAND PANEL CONVENES TO EVALUATE COMPETING DESIGNS

MARCH 1965

PERKIN-ELMER ACKNOWLEDGES ITS CAPABILITY TO BUILD CAMERA SYSTEM INCORPORATING CERTAIN MAJOR MODIFICATIONS TO ITEK'S OPTICAL BAR DESIGN

JULY 1965 THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 1966

SUSTAINING EFFORTS AT PERKIN-ELMER IN COMPETITION WITH DESIGNS AT EASTMAN-KODAK AND ITEK

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1 OCTOBER 1966

DNRO AUTHORIZES SELECTION OF PERKIN-
ELMER AS SENSOR CONTRACTOR FOR
HEXAGON SYSTEM

AUGUST 1967

LMSC SELECTED AS SATELLITE BASIC
ASSEMBLY (SBA) CONTRACTOR

APRIL 1968

CIA SIGNS DEFINITIVE CONTRACT (CPIF)
WITH PERKIN-ELMER

JUNE 1968

MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS SELECTED AS RE-ENTRY
VEHICLE CONTRACTOR