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25 September 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Special Projects Staff

SUBJECT: Weekly Status Report No. 1 on Project FULCRUM

1. Camera System

a. ITEK - At the meeting at ITEK on 23 September, it was made quite clear that ITEK management had responded quickly and favorably to the urgent request for additional experienced ITEK professional manpower for immediate transfer to the FULCRUM project. Specifically, 30 senior engineers were assigned to the 9204 Project effective at once. Tasks were revised to reflect the decision to concentrate on the continuous film transport, optical bar camera system and the 1/3 focal length system, with the major emphasis to be placed on the former. These tasks now are as follows:

- Task 1 - Optical Bar System
- Task 2 - Optical Systems Design and Fabrication
- Task 3 - Gas Bearing Analysis (Franklin Institute)
- Task 4 - 1/3 Focal Length System
- Task 5 - Camera System Analysis
- Task 6 - Facilities Study
- Task 7 - Phase II Analysis

Approximate cost figures for these revised tasks through 1 February were telephoned to Mr. McMahon today (\$2,875,000). Weekly manpower expenditures will be cabled in, and a monthly detailed chart will be sent in. SPS Project Engineers are investigating existing and proposed S/I cameras to determine their application to Project FULCRUM and then will advise ITEK of our decision. The ~~CORONA~~ discharge problem currently proposed as a subcontract with Ion Physics Corporation has run into security problems and is currently being discussed to determine if a separate contract is advisable. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for 8 or 9 October.

FULCRUM-0042-64

CY 2 OF 2

~~SECRET~~

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b. STL - The six-month film handling effort (STL proposed cost \$657,487) was initiated on 8 September. Discussions with Mr. Emory Reeves, STL Project Manager, early this week resulted in the redirection of STL's work statement to concentrate exclusively on the intermittent film transport problem for the optical bar configuration. STL was asked today, through Dr. Solomon, to resubmit their work statement and cost estimate to reflect this revision. Of current concern is the fact that a six-month contract runs into March.

c. P. E. - Alternate optical design studies were established on 23 June, with the \$64,430 contract running until 15 October. Currently being considered are further efforts at P. E. to (1) study the reimaging, or transfer, optics concepts with application further downstream than FULCRUM and/or (2) limited feasibility efforts of one of the proposed FULCRUM alternate systems concepts.

2. Spacecraft

RFP's were sent out on 2 September to the three competing companies. Responses from all three were received on 9 September, and go-aheads were given on 10 September. Approved funds were GE - \$62,502, LMSC - \$61,650, and STL - \$59,672. The response date is 22 October.

3. Recovery System

RFP's were sent out on 9 September to the two competing companies. Responses from both were received on 16 September, and go-aheads were given to AVCO on 17 September and to GE on 21 September after GE had submitted a more complete management plan. Approved funds were AVCO - \$58,763 and GE - \$63,922. The response date is 2 November. AVCO submitted a written list of questions, the answers to which are currently being checked out with ITEK. Dr. Adams of AVCO was provided with the name of the company currently providing the parachutes (Irving Air Shute) and the contact there (Tom Beresford), and this information will appear also on the answers to be sent to GE and AVCO.

4. Systems Engineering

A letter of intent was given to Dr. Solomon of STL today for STL's approval. A detailed work statement will be prepared as soon as possible. Selection of the STL Project Manager has not been made at this time due to the recent death of Mr. Elmer Franklin and the

2

FULCRUM-0042-64

CV 3 OF 7

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current absence of Dr. R. DeLauer, but until such time as this decision can be made, Mr. John Franks is beginning work on the launch specifications.

5. Interface Aspects - No problems at this time.



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