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SUBJECT: Combination of TRANSIT and TATTLETALE Payloads; investigation of (C).		

ROUTE SHEET
PRNC-NRL-15-862 (1-58)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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20 APR 1959

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From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: Chief, Bureau of Ordnance
Subj: Combination of TRANSIT and TATTLETALE Payloads;
investigation of (C)

1. The Chief of Naval Operations has received from the Naval Research Laboratory, a proposal for an electronic intelligence satellite (Code name TATTLETALE). The proposal has been reviewed within the Navy Department and evaluated as a potentially valuable aid to the intelligence collection effort. In order to realize the full potential of this system the TATTLETALE satellite must be launched during the current calendar year.
2. Inasmuch as the total weight of the TATTLETALE satellite is only 40 pounds and since additional boosters for satellite launch are essentially unavailable, it is necessary to examine already programmed launches to determine whether the TATTLETALE payload could be accommodated. Preliminary discussion with representatives of ARPA, BUORD, and the Applied Research Laboratory indicate that the TRANSIT program might also satisfy TATTLETALE requirements.
3. It is therefore requested that an investigation be conducted to determine the feasibility of combining the TRANSIT and TATTLETALE payloads in order to get the TATTLETALE payload in orbit this year. An analysis of the impact on the TRANSIT program in terms of both additional time and expenditure should be included as a part of the investigation. Mr. Howard Lorenzen of NRL will be available to furnish the necessary information concerning the TATTLETALE satellite.

Copy to:
NRL
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1020 APR 52 08 52

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