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SAC Visit with Regard to Project CANES

I. On 15 March an <sup>TOG</sup> NSA team visited SAC to discuss the SAC request for Project CANES tapes. In addition to the NSA team representatives of ONI, NSG, and AFCIN were present.

II. Trip objectives and conference results are listed.

A. To Determine SAC's Capability to Process Project CANES

Material by Hand Methods. Trip Comment. SAC has a number of professional ELINT analysts well able to analyze ELINT signals and intelligently utilize the results. They do not have as many good analysts as does COSA-5. Their processing equipment consists of six standard ELINT processing complexes of equipment. Additional they have an excellent equipment package and procedure which handled the ELINT take from the TALENT missions. This equipment successfully accepts a density of ELINT signals beyond those normally collected from airborne or ground bases. It will not however come close to handling the signal density problem encountered in the Project CANES tapes. In summary SAC has no hand processing methods beyond those of COSA-5 which could be efficiently utilized in the processing of these tapes.

B. To Determine SAC's Capability to Process Project CANES

Material by Machine Methods. Trip Comment. SAC has a machine capability to process the tapes utilizing the 7090, 704, and Datatron 220. SAC would of course need

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a AUDICO type of equipment to reduce to tapes to digital form. The NSA team did not receive a clear picture as to SAC's capability to successfully program these tapes. The probability is that they can do this over in about a six months period. The reason for the unclear picture in this area was that SAC under the tight security aspects under which this project is held, has not cleared any programmers. Therefore our discussions were necessarily somewhat general. In summary SAC can probably successfully mount a machine effort which would become operational perhaps 8 months from its start.

- C. To Explain Our Machine Processing Program with Respect To Project CANES. The NSA team explained our program in detail including equipment, status of program and expected outputs. In connection with our expected outputs it was pointed out to SAC that our output was very similar to the ALD-4 output which will become the big input to the Finder complex which is expected to be operational at SAC about June 1961. The NSA team feels that the SAC Finder equipment represents a very useful manipulator of ELINT data. In summary the NSA team explained to comprehending SAC ELINT specialists. our machine processing program and its status.

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