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MEMORANDUM

30 March 1971

TO 7900

From 7920

Subj: Dr. Berman's POPPY VARIANT or ALTERNATE CONFIGURATION....

1. Several events have occurred which make this proposal more meaningful:

A- CNO was briefed by PM-16 on 22 March and the question of a Contingency Plan for a disastrous loss of the Payloads, (for instance failure to achieve orbit on Launch) was raised....Mayo and Wilhelm have prepared and delivered on Saturday Morning to Capt Geiger, the paper provided as Enclosure #1, which will be discussed in greater detail if desired.

D- The contingency Plan ^(requested by) ~~(for)~~ CNO has taken the concept for a

SCOUT Launch much farther than was necessary for the [] and

now [] approximately six or seven alternative designs have been

~~SECRET~~ examined and modified and rejected. the SCOUT is indeed capable of ^{CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY}

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lofting a [] small POPPY spacecraft into orbit and a plan which minimizes both the cost risks and the time delays associated with the Scout launch have been determined.

2. POPPY has developed from a background of ELINT collection requirements and thus has historically emphasized the versatility and accuracy of the various parametric ELINT measurements available in the Mission. Now however, with (1) [] Identification and (2) [] Localization being the dominate design criterion many alternative simplifications are possible in the spacecraft. These simplifications must be carefully selected or else the ability to provide sufficient Fingerprinting of each Hull will disappear, or at least be severely degraded. Fingerprinting, while demonstrated against the [] emitter, has ^{significant potential with} not shown ~~great extension into~~ the other emitters in the 820 to 920 MHz band or the 2680 to 2930 MHz band. Either the emitter must display a wide range of a single ^{parameter} characteristic ~~used within a single~~ ~~family of emitter~~ or else the characteristic must be so invariant that slight differences between various members of an emitter family can be detected and recognized as a fingerprint for this particular family member. [] ^{around Moscow} is an example of the latter case where PRF of all these emitters is around 2000 PPS but they are crystal controlled and in the third decimal place there is a distinguishable variant ^{identifying each} ~~between various~~ members of this [] Family which have enough stability to be useful over fairly long periods for identification of the particular emitter. So far the ship emitters ^{not} have little ^{displayed} ~~demonstrated~~ this characteristic visible through POPPY. A Further ~~study might~~ ~~lose it though.~~

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It seems about 8 bands can be included which should provide adequate ^{potential for} Weapon System definition ~~potential~~ and Identification. For instance a single Hull has many radar emissions, the dependancy on the ship radiating can ^{not} be removed by any passive system but emission control is rarely complete and total so by adding other frequencies to the passive system it does improve probability of intercept.

This 8-Band system adds to the cost by requiring stabilized spacecraft and $4 \times$ the KHINT costs but it does vastly increase operational effectiveness. Over Soviet Territory it could address between 75 & 80% of all radar emissions & over water 70-75% ^{radar emissions}.
the latest most sophisticated emissions from

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ships disclosed use of the 820 to 950 MHz,
the 4200 to 5050 MHz, the 6700 MHz &
7700 MHz bands. 8800 MHz.

820 — 9

The higher performance Soviet will be launched
Oct 71. For the first time. After Jan this
booster could be available between 1.8 & 2.1 M.
depending on Polaris cooperation.

Earth's peculiar (nose fairing, adapter sections
and Guidance package) can be the long lead
time items & cost between \$50K & \$100K
& take about 9 to 10 months.

Communication from bird to bird is an
attractive concept and we should study
all methods of getting info to friendly
sites to avoid foreign sites. We need
a staff (Sec's Section) to carry this study effort.
[redacted] could help in this too.

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~~Processing~~ (or Seriable) Data Extractor (PDE) hardware is currently under development and evolutionary future design concepts are being studied which should optimize the operational time-critical job ~~with the majority of~~ ~~ships~~ afloat, in the air and ground mobile emitters.

The Second Generation Computer System is under going early procurement definition at this time and when deployed and equipped with a software suit will be highly capable ^{near} real-time signal identification and location.

Second Generation SDE will have both Scan Sort and A-T (Geographic sort) capability by hardwired recognizer type systems furthering the potential of real time I.D. & localization.