

~~TOP SECRET~~
Handle Via ~~BYEMAN~~
~~CHANNELS ONLY~~

ITH 0979
424247 PP VVV RUXPDAA0347 4852446 08047-XXXX--RUXPDAA.
ZNY XXXXX VVV ZNM
P 082445Z
BT
XXXXX
ALLOT 270
ALLOT PAEL BISON

T O P S E C R E T 082445Z JUL 80 CITE [] 0890
PRIORITY BISON.
HANDLE VIA BYEMAN CONTROL CHANNELS ONLY

BISON FOR KULPA; FROM: DR. HERMANN
SUBJECT: P989 ACQUISITION AND LAUNCH STRATEGY
REFERENCE: BISON 6704, JULY 80

1. PLEASE CONVEY MY APPRECIATION TO YOUR P989 STAFF FOR THE ASSISTANCE THEY PROVIDED IN DEVELOPING LOW-ORBIT ELINT DISCUSSION PAPERS FOR THE OSD AND THE IC STAFF.
2. THE P989 PROGRAM WHICH I HAVE RECOMMENDED TO ADMIRAL TURNER INCORPORATED A LAUNCH ON ANTICIPATION OF FAILURE STRATEGY BEGINNING WITH FARRAH II. I THINK THIS PROVIDES AN ACCEPTABLE RESPONSE TO THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITIES REQUIREMENTS AND MAKES US PERIODICALLY VULNERABLE TO FURTHER IC STAFF OR OSD DIRECTED BUDGET CUTS. I HAVE HELD THE FARRAH II AVAILABILITY DATE IN 1982 AND PROGRAMMED FUTURE SATELLITE ACQUISITIONS ON APPROXIMATELY TWO YEAR- CENTERS TO BUILD A FULL PIPELINE SPARE BY 1988. THIS POSTURE PROVIDES FLEXIBILITY FOR RIDE SHARING AND ALSO ALLOWS FOR A MULTIPLE SATELLITE PROGRAM IN THE FUTURE SHOULD REQUIREMENTS WARRANT.

REVW: 3 JUL 2000
T O P S E C R E T
BT
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SAF/SPE		✓
TC		
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COMM		
RF		✓

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