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~~TOP SECRET~~ 071526Z JUN 69 CITE [REDACTED] 2390

FOR [REDACTED] MESSAGE CENTER. PLACE ONE REPEAT ONE COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND DELIVER ONLY TO GEN BLEYMAIER. DESTROY ALL OTHER COPIES, TAPES, CARBONS, ETC. NOTIFY BY SERVICE MESSAGE TO [REDACTED] WHEN ABOVE HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

IMMEDIATE [REDACTED]
FROM [REDACTED] TO [REDACTED]
EYES ONLY GEN BLEYMAIER FROM GEN STEWART.

PART I. CONFIRMING OUR TELECON, THE "ADMINISTRATION" (PRESUMABLY THE PRESIDENT) HAS DECIDED TO TERMINATE MOL EXCEPT FOR THE "AUTOMATIC" CAMERA SYSTEM. THIS, OF COURSE, IS PUBLIC TERMINATION OF THE ENTIRE MOL PROGRAM. I GATHER THE PLAN IS FOR SECRETARY LAIRD TO ANNOUNCE MOL TERMINATION IN CONGRESS AT 1030 AM TUESDAY; THE AIR FORCE TO NOTIFY MOL CONTRACTORS AT THE SAME TIME; AND MR. PACKARD TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE TERMINATION AT ABOUT 1100AM IN THE PENTAGON ALSO ON TUESDAY. PART II. OSD PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS APPARENTLY WILL CITE THE NEED TO FURTHER REDUCE FEDERAL DEFENSE SPENDING AND "ADVANCES IN AUTOMATED TECHNIQUES FOR UNMANNED SATELLITE SYSTEMS" AS PRIMARY FACTORS

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IN THE DECISION TO CANCEL MOL. MR. LAIRD AND MR. PACKARD WILL

NRO APPROVED FOR
RELEASE 1 JULY 2001

STATE THAT DOD WAS FACED EITHER WITH CANCELLING NUMEROUS
SMALLER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OR ONE OR MORE OF THE LARGER,
MORE COSTLY UNDERTAKINGS. THEY WILL ALSO STATE THAT
MOL, WHILE WORTHWHILE, DID NOT EQUATE IN IMMEDIATE VALUE
TO THE SUM OF OTHER DOD PROGRAMS. AND FINALLY, SINCE IT IS
POSSIBLE TO MEET THE MOST ESSENTIAL DOD NEEDS WITH LESS
COSTLY UNMANNED SYSTEMS, MOL HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR
CANCELLATION.

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PART III. AS NEAR AS I CAN GATHER, THE REASON REALLY IS THE
NEED TO REDUCE SPENDING -- BOTH IN FY 70 AND FUTURE
FISCAL YEARS. APPARENTLY, THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN
CONVINCED THAT THE MONEY BEING INVESTED IN OVERHEAD
RECONNAISSANCE MUST BE REDUCED BY A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT.
ALTHOUGH MOST ADMINISTRATION LEADERS AGREE THAT VERY
HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOGRAPHY IS WORTHWHILE, FEW BELIEVE
THAT THERE IS ANY GREAT URGENCY IN ACQUIRING A MATURE VHR
CAPABILITY AT ANY GIVEN FUTURE DATE. SINCE IT CLEARLY IS FEASIBLE TO
USE THE MOL CAMERA IN AN UNMANNED SATELLITE, IT WAS
DECIDED TO PROTECT THE VHR OPTION AND SAVE MONEY BY TERMINATING

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ALL OF MOL EXCEPT THE "AUTOMATIC" CAMERA SYSTEM, AND START
AN OPTIMIZED LESS COSTLY UNMANNED SYSTEM IN LATE FY 70 OR
FY 71. ALL CONCERNED RECOGNIZE THAT AN UNMANNED SYSTEM
USING THE MOL CAMERA WILL HAVE POORER AVERAGE RESOLUTION,
BE LESS CAPABLE AND FLEXIBLE, BE LESS RELIABLE, ETC.,
THAN THE MANNED MOL WOULD HAVE BEEN. PART IV.
WHEN THE NEWS BREAKS, YOU WILL BE DELUGED WITH QUERIES.
OTHER THAN INFORMAL RESPONSES TO PRIMARY MOL CONTRACTORS,
ALL QUERIES SHOULD BE REFERRED TO SAFOI OR THE MOL PROGRAM
OFFICE. GEN O'NEILL AND GEN MARTIN SHOULD READ THIS MESSAGE.
PART V. THE TENTATIVE PLAN FOR THE NEAR FUTURE IS AS FOLLOWS:
THE GEMINI, TITAN IIIM, SPACE SUIT AND FEEDING EFFORTS WILL
BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY. STOP MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AT VAER

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NOW UNDERWAY WILL BE GENERALLY COMPLETED TO THE MINIMUM PRACTICAL EXTENT AND MOTHBALLED; OTHER MOL CONSTRUCTION AT VAFB WILL BE STOPPED ASAP. THE TRW CONTRACT WILL BE REDUCED TO A SUSTAINING LEVEL OF EFFORT ON ONLY THAT AIRBORNE AND GROUND SOFTWARE APPLICABLE TO AN UNMANNED SYSTEM. THE AEROSPACE EFFORT IS TO BE REDUCED IMMEDIATELY TO ESSENTIALLY THAT NECESSARY TO SUPPORT AN UNMANNED CAMERA SYSTEM, SOFTWARE, TERMINATION AND

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SKANTZE'S PLANNING OFFICE. THE GE AND EK CONTRACTS ARE TO BE REDUCED IMMEDIATELY TO ONLY THOSE CAMERA SYSTEM EFFORTS APPLICABLE TO A NOT-YET-DEFINED UNMANNED SATELLITE SYSTEM THAT WILL USE THE COMPLETE MOL MISSION MODULE. GE AND EK SHOULD PLAN ON AN FY 70 LEVEL OF EFFORT OF AT MOST \$4 MILLION PER MONTH FOR GE AND \$5 MILLION PER MONTH FOR EK; THESE AMOUNTS INCLUDE ALL OF THEIR SUBCONTRACTORS. THE MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS LABORATORY CONTRACT WILL PROBABLY BE REDUCED TO THOSE PORTIONS OF THE COMPUTER AND LDAU EFFORTS APPLICABLE TO AN UNMANNED SYSTEM, THE COMPLETION OF ANY MISSION MODULE STRUCTURES AND PARTIAL-STRUCTURE INTERFACE SUBSTITUTES FOR GE AND EK WELL ALONG IN FABRICATION, AND SOME DAC ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR A SHORT WHILE. AT MOST, ONLY ABOUT \$25 MILLION WILL BE ALLOCATED FOR DAC IN FY 70; THIS INCLUDES THE COMPUTER. DAC PROBABLY WILL BE TOTALLY TERMINATED AND THE COMPUTER CONTRACT TRANSFERRED TO GE UNLESS DAC WINS THE NEW SPACE-CRAFT COMPETITION ... NASA MAY REPEAT MAY PICK UP THE FAIRCHILD-HILLER EFFORT, PART OF THE IBM EFFORT (PRINTERS), THE MOLECULAR SIEVE, AND SOME OF THE LIFE SUPPORT ITEMS, BUT THOSE APPEAR TO BE ABOUT THE ONLY ONES. PART VI. THE CONCEPT FOR THE FUTURE IS BASED ON PAST LMSC STUDIES DONE FOR SAFSP, (SEE GEN MARTIN

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FOR STORY). THOSE STUDIES ENVISAGED USING THE MOL CAMERA, COMPUTER,

AUTOMATIC CAMERA CONTROLS, AND COMPLETE MISSION MODULE SECTION

COMBINED WITH AN SAFSP SPACECRAFT, LAUNCHED ATOP A TITAN IIID.

FOUR MARK V RV'S WOULD BE USED FOR FILM RETURN ... EARLY IN

FY 70, IT IS PLANNED TO HOLD A FUNDED COVERT SPACECRAFT COMPETITION

BETWEEN LMSC/GE/EK AND MAC-D/GE/EK. MAC-D WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO

PROPOSE A REPACKAGING OF APPROPRIATE MOL COMPONENTS AND SUBSYSTEMS;

LMS ENCOURAGED TO PROPOSE BASED ON AN SAFSS PROGRAM ... PRELIMINARY

THINKING HERE SEEMS TO BE THAT I WILL HEAD UP A TEAM OF MOL/

SAFSS/SAFSP PLANNING PEOPLE TO PREPARE AN RFP. AS SOON AS

POSSIBLE, THE ENTIRE EFFORT WILL BE COME PART OF THE NRP UNDER

SAFSP. PART VII. UNLESS SOME MIRACLE HAPPENS, COL KEMP WILL BE OUT

SUNDAY PM WITH THE OFFICIAL DIRECTION TO TERMINATE, STOP WORK,

OR REDUCE EFFORT IN LINE WITH THE PRECEDING SECTIONS. HE WILL

ALSO HAVE ANY DRAFT STATEMENTS, PRESS RELEASES, ETC., AVAILABLE

AT THE TIME, PLUS A BETTER-THOUGHT-OUT MEMO FROM ME ON THE

FUTURE PLAN. PER OUR DISCUSSION FRIDAY, HE WILL CONTACT ONLY

YOU. ANY LAST MINUTE INSTRUCTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE

PACKAGE KEMP WILL HAVE WILL BE PROVIDED MONDAY PM. PART VIII.

ADVISE ONLY THE MINIMUM NECESSARY SYSTEMS OFFICE PERSONNEL MONDAY

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AM. BY CLOSE OF YOUR WORK DAY MONDAY, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

ANNOUNCE THIS TO THE ENTIRE SO.

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ALL COPIES AND TAPES EXCEPT FOR THE ONE
COPY DELIVERED TO GEN BLEYMAIER OF [REDACTED] 2390
WERE COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY BURNING
AND WITNESSED BY GEN BLEYMAIER AT
071645Z.

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