

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENE L CABELL *etc*

For your information, if interested, I have already given you a brief account of this trip orally.

RMB
RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
DD/P

16 January 1959

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

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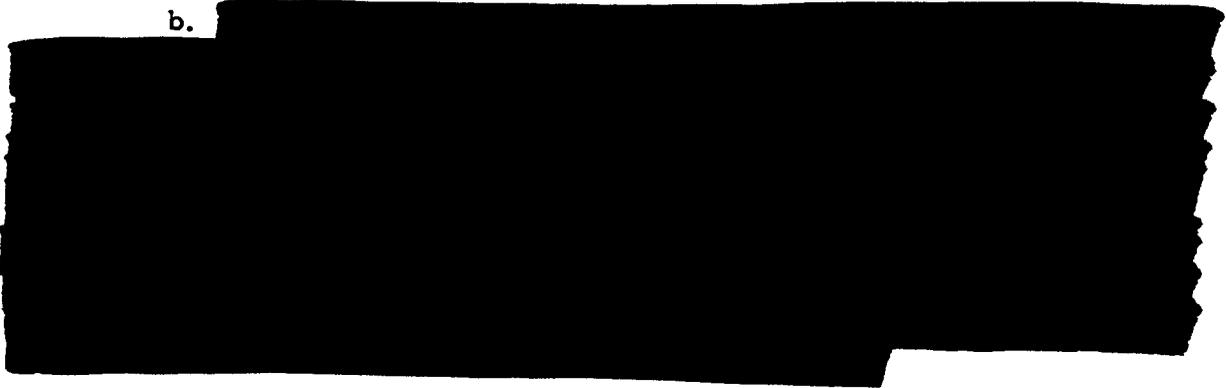
9 January 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans) *Quayle*

SUBJECT : Briefing of General Power at SAC Headquarters

1. On 6 January 1959 I briefed General Power as follows:

a. 

b. 

c. CORONA. In addition to briefing General Power, I also briefed Maj. Gen. Edmundson and Maj. Gen. Westover individually and covered the background and development of the CORONA project with emphasis on the fact that BMD would do the shooting and handling, but that CIA developed the camera package and has made arrangements for high quality processing equipment. The biomedical aspects of the shots were discussed as well as the USAF air-snatch recovery technique. I stated that camera development would continue although the first two camera packages have been completed. A schedule of firings was given as approximately one per month starting about 9 January with the first camera package being launched in April or early May.

All three individuals being briefed had "swallowed" the CORONA cover story and were most concerned with regard to delays and setbacks announced for the 117-L project. All were relieved to know that a capability would soon exist and that continued development would go on with regard to the camera package since the resolution required to pinpoint ICBM sites would be greatly enhanced by longer focal lengths.

General Power considered that it was extremely important to have an IR warning capability in the 117-L. His two major requirements consist of the tactical warning system afforded by IR plus precise knowledge of the Russian ICBM locations.

d.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2.

[REDACTED]

With regard to [REDACTED] and CORONA, I advised the three senior officers concerned of the President's personal interest in maintaining the tightest security. With regard to CORONA, I told each of the Generals that only three people in SAC Headquarters had been briefed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Colonel, USAF
DPD-DD/P

[REDACTED]