

Ø1ØØZ 31 JAN 61

~~SECRET~~



DIRECTOR

OPS (1,2,3,4,)

S/C (5)

JM

TOR: Ø156Z 31 JAN 61

**PRIORITY**

PRIORITY

Declassified and Downgraded by [redacted]

In Accordance with [redacted]

on NOV 26 1997

NO NITE ACTION

REF: [redacted]

This document contains information referring to Project ARGON

FOR MESSRS PARANGOSKY AND KIEFER FROM COLONEL BATTLE  
PLEASE PASS TO DR. CHARYK.

DURING A ROUTINE FLOW CHECK OF THE THOR A FUEL LEAK WAS FOUND WHICH MAKES IT NECESSARY TO REPLACE THE THOR FUEL DUCT. THIS REQUIRES REMOVAL OF THE THOR FROM THE LAUNCHER, REPLACEMENT OF THE FUEL DUCT, AND REPEAT OF ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS AND FLOW CHECKS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED. SINCE LAUNCH OF 1104 WAS BEING HELD FOR SAMOS THE FLOW CHECK HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN MADE.

OUR WORK SCHEDULE CALLS FOR A MAXIMUM EFFORT (7 DAYS OF 24 HR WORK) WHICH WILL PLACE 1104 AT R-4 DAY ON 6 FEBRUARY WITH LAUNCH POSSIBLE ON 10 FEBRUARY. SINCE THIS TIME SCALE ALLOWS FOR NO DELAY OR TROUBLE A LAUNCH DAY OF 14 FEBRUARY CAN BE MORE COMPARATIVELY EXPECTED.

~~SECRET~~

OUR PRESENT INSTRUCTIONS REQUIRE US TO PROCEED WITH PREPARATIONS FOR LAUNCH OF 1104 BEFORE 1102. ON THIS SCHEDULE, 1102 WILL LAUNCH 6 DAYS AFTER 1104. HOWEVER, 1102 IS PRESENTLY AT R-9 DAY AND WITH NO MAJOR TROUBLE COULD BE LAUNCHED ON 3 FEBRUARY; PROVIDED IT WERE ACCORDED PRIORITY OVER 1104.

IF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ALTER THE DECISION ON ORDER OF LAUNCH, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THE ALTERNATIVE IF SO DIRECTED BY NOON ON 1 FEBRUARY.

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END OF MESSAGE