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17 October 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, OSA
SUBJECT: Earliest Possible CORONA Launch

1. Subject was discussed with Colonel Murphy, this date, and his initial reaction was that the 19 day planning factor for converting an ARGON to CORONA launch could probably be decreased to 15 days. On one other occasion this change was accomplished in 14 days. These figures assume that the 75° alternate inclination angle previously selected would be used for the next CORONA launch.

2. Colonel Murphy was advised that if this change is approved the Community would expect an all out effort to make the change without regard to other priorities currently being considered by BMD. He was further advised that he will be provided with a final decision today and that a camera program would be provided by the time he reports for work on 18 October.

3. Colonel Murphy will immediately begin work with the West Coast facilities to determine actions necessary to accomplish a CORONA launch in a minimum time, however, actual implementation of these procedures will not be accomplished pending a final decision from Project Headquarters.


Lt. Colonel USAF
Chief, Operations Division, OSA

OSA/OD  (17 Oct 62)
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on NOV 26 1997