

more difficult to build than a Polaris missile which has required extensive testing. Secondly, the numerous shots afford an excellent means of exercising a world-wide tracking net which cannot be perfected without activity. Finally, the development and refinement of the recovery method (with its implications for other space programs such as Mercury), obviously requires much trial and error to perfect.

5. Manifestly, the above considerations are pointless so long as the whole program is veiled and portends to remain under the shroud of military secrecy. However, against the time that the veil might be suddenly rent (there is restlessness among the legislators) it may be prudent to take some steps now, at least similar to those proposed above.

6. Actually, [REDACTED] and I feel that the same purpose may be accomplished more simply if we begin now to (1) identify all the participants (unknown to [REDACTED] in this phase of the Discoverer program, (2) obtain from them all reprints and copies of data that have been published, and (3) assure that reports have been and are being made in some form on all data received from these experiments. This approach would be short of publishing a combined volume which, upon closer inspection, would hardly be useful to anyone other than OSA and in our hands would be too obvious. On the other hand a collection of the many reports, combined with the engineering data suggested by Colonel Worthman, might well stand us in good stead at some future date.

SIGNED
[REDACTED]

Att - envelope

[REDACTED]

(29 June 1962)