

2 Nov 64 17 47
~~TOP SECRET~~

2 NOVEMBER 1964

PRIORITY [REDACTED] INFO PRIORITY [REDACTED] CITE [REDACTED]

REF A: MSN 1014

1. TO PREVENT ANOTHER EPISODE SUCH AS DEVELOPED AROUND ATTEMPTS TO APPLY THE 9th DAY SYNCHRONOUS, 80 DEG ORBIT TO A CUBE-EMPHASIZED MISSION, [REDACTED] HAS INSTITUTED A PROGRAM FOR SAMPLING ALL ORBITS DEVELOPED FOR VEHICLE ASCENT GUIDANCE PURPOSES AND SENT TO [REDACTED] FOR MISSION PLANNING. BESIDES THE UNFORTUNATE CASE MENTIONED ABOVE, TWO OTHER LIBRARY CASES HAVE BEEN FOUND TO HAVE SIMILAR FLAWS. THESE WILL HAVE IN PAST BEEN SECONDARY SELECTIONS AND HAVE NOT HAD BENEFIT OF NORMAL TREATMENT THAT WOULD BARE THESE FLAWS. ~~EVER~~ THE ABOVE CASE WAS SECONDARY SELECTION ON MSN 1013, ~~VEHICLE PEOPLE THEMSELVES~~ WERE NOT AWARE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PLANNING ORBIT AND THE GUIDANCE ORBIT UNTIL ^{THEY WERE COMPARED} ~~IT WAS POINTED OUT BY~~ [REDACTED] AFTER RECEIPT OF [REDACTED] DESIGNATING THE CASE AS REVISED PRIMARY FOR REF MSN.

2. FROM [REDACTED] IT APPEARED AS IF [REDACTED] WAS LEFT OUT OF PLANNING FOR REF MISSION. HAD NORMAL [REDACTED] PLANNING CHANNELS BEEN OBSERVED BELIEVE THE ERROR WOULD HAVE COME TO LIGHT EARLIER. [REDACTED] HAD AVAILABLE IN HOUSE THE DATA NECESSARY TO REVEAL SUCH DISCREPANCIES, AND WILL NO LONGER ASSUME THAT EVERY ORBIT RECEIVED FOR MISSION PLANNING IS CORRECT.

3. PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN PLANNING PROCEDURE THAT SHIFTS RESPONSIBILITY FROM [REDACTED] TO SOME OTHER AUTHORITY.

END OF MESSAGE

Declassified and Released by the N R O

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In Accordance with E. O. 12958

NOV 26 1997