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8 August 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted] SA/IS/OSP
SUBJECT : Exploitation of SO-180 on Mission 1104
REFERENCE : [redacted]

I sympathize with the point of your memo, but I believe that the only exploitation problem we have with ref material is with the people, not the plan. The following points may ease your mind.

1. TSSG/NPIC is coordinating the exploitation planning for this mission. They claim that NPIC has "several" operational PI's well qualified to read out the SO-180. These people have been reading out SO-180 from Vietnam missions. They claim that there is "no problem" at the Center from the standpoint of people who know how to interpret this material.
2. For further coordination, and education, TSSG/NPIC is conducting a series of briefings next week for all Center personnel. These briefings are being given on 13-14 August for the specific purpose of familiarizing all personnel on SO-180, its characteristics and use. After that date, no one at NPIC will be able to claim a lack of knowledge about SO-180. This briefing will include, by the way, a discussion of what the "false" colors on SO-180 really are on the ground. In fact, TSSG has put together a set of "PI Keys" directly oriented to the readout of SO-180 that will be available for the PI's to use during the 1104 readout.
3. I talked to ORD and NPIC last week relative to the special problems of reading out the agricultural targets. It was the consensus that no further coordination between NPIC and ORD was in order until we knew exactly what agricultural targets had been acquired (if any). We, of course, will know this about one week before the film hits NPIC, so time is available to do the needed coordination after an actual acquisition list is obtained.

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4. In any event, the exact exploitation tasks and procedures cannot be detailed until we know the exact coverage with the SO-180.

5. In summary, I see no need (nor does TSSG) in preparing an exploitation plan for community consumption. I have asked [REDACTED] to please make sure that the appropriate NPIC chiefs understand what is being done on SO-180 exploitation so that we can minimize any more telephone calls. For the present time, the exploitation of SO-180 is well in hand.

[REDACTED]

H/OSP

cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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