

~~SECRET~~

POL-A-4
R/R II
R/R-B-1-0
HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



THE NRO STAFF



August 2, 1968

NOTE FOR COLONEL BUMM , SAFSP

I have attached, per your request, a copy of the message we discussed most recently on August 1, 1968.

As I mentioned in my earlier call, the problem in the wire is the unclassified revelation of the words "Project CRESTED ROOSTER." These words constitute the description for Program 390 and are relatable only to national and military urgency determinations. Their source is DOD Instruction S-4410.3 classified SECRET - Special Handling Required - Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals. This Instruction contains no authorization for the quoting of any designators under lesser security classifications. We have been orally admonished by the Air Force Master Urgency List (MUL) people for this breach and have been asked to advise them of the corrective action we have taken. Hence, my earlier request.

Over and above this administrative type security question -- we are much more concerned about the unauthorized and inappropriate use of the number -- Program 390 and its code identification CRESTED ROOSTER. As you know, these identifiers constitute the DOD MUL List identification of the DX industrial priority rating on our government contracts and orders. As such, their use is confined to those individuals having written priorities and allocations delegations. Moreover, MUL ratings are intended for exclusive use in "expediting materials and equipment in support of current production, construction and research and development projects" -- hardly relatable to an investigation "of the cause of excessive contamination in JC-130 aerial recovery hydraulic systems," the stated purpose of Mr. Blakeley's visit to Hawaii (reference the attached wire).

I am sitting in a very touchy spot here, with regard to a MUL rating for Program 390 effort. We have successfully maintained our position on this List under a tremendous pressure by the JCS and the OSD to scrub

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all but directly-associated combat items from the List. This has been due, in large measure, to our very prudent application of the privilege. References such as the one in the attached wire tend to destroy our credibility.

With specific reference to the wire, I should point out that there exists absolutely no relationship between USAF precedences and a MUL rated item. The absence of this relationship caused us to establish, some time ago, the designator Program 698AJ in the "white" world to support a precedence rating of 1-1 throughout the Air Force. This is clearly the designator which should have been used by Mr. Blakeley. We would appreciate your reviewing this distinction for program participants.

We need your help.

Rice

WILLIAM R. YOST
Lt Colonel, USAF
Asst Deputy Director
for Plans & Policy

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~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN: 49318 (11 Jul 68)J/ash
INFO: XOP-2, XOX-2, OAP-4, SAFOS-3 (12)

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SMB A024PRTTEZYUW RUWMABA0030 1930039-EEEE--RUEFHQA.

ZNY EEEEE

R 110005 ZJUL 68

FM SMAMA MCCLELLAN AFB CALIF

TO RUHHABA/CINCPACAF/CS/

INFO RUHHHQA/CINCPAC/CS/

RUEFIA/AFLC/MCGST C/

RUEFHQA/CSAF/AFXOPF/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O SMBA

SUBJ: NOTIFICATION OF TRAVEL: MR. ELWYN E. BLAKELEY, B-46060,
GS-11, EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST, SECURITY CLEARANCE SECRET, SMAMA,
MCCLELLAN AFB, CALIFORNIA/NCB/U.Y. CITIZEN, WILL PROCEED TO
NICKAM AFB, HAWAII, DEPARTING CONUS, 1400 HOURS, 11 JUL 68 ON
FLIGHT R-251. ETA IN HONOLULU, HAWAII 1600 HOURS, LOCAL TIME.
TDY APPROXIMATELY EIGHT DAYS. PURPOSE OF VISIT: TO INVESTIGATE
THE CAUSE OF EXCESSIVE CONTAMINATION IN JC-130 AERIAL RECOVERY
HYDRAULIC SYSTEMS. PLEASE MAKE HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS UPON ARRIVAL. ACTIVITIES TO BE VISITED ARE 6594 TEST
GP AND 6593 TEST SQ. THIS TRAVEL IS IN SUPPORT OF PROJECT

FORM
AFHQ JAN 65 0-309C

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN: 49318

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ZCRESTED ROOSTER", USAF PRIORITY PRECEDENCE 1-1.

BT

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AFHQ JAN 65 O-309C

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