

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



16 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

SUBJECT: Irving Air Chute Co., Inc

On 11 April 1968, the undersigned accompanied Mr. Lou Schaff, LAC Security Representative, on a tour of the Irving Air Chute plant, Gardena, California. The tour was conducted by Mr. William A. Revelle, Executive Director, Mr. Bradford F. Benton, Assistant Director/Controller and Mr. Howard Frazee, Security Officer of the Irving Air Chute Company.

The following significant items were noted:

- a. As previously suggested by LAC and West Coast Security, a "Special Project" (SP) area has been constructed to segregate the manufacturing of air craft program chutes from other Irving products. A guard stationed at the entrance/exit of the SP area limits access to employees possessing an Irving Company badge with a yellow dot in the upper left hand corner. However, Mr. Schaff later mentioned that on some badges, the dot is affixed on the exterior of the badge (as opposed to sealed in the badge) making its removal and transferral to any other employee's badge possible.
- b. To date, no visible progress has been made to relocate the manufacturing of satellite program chutes in the SP area.
- c. When queried, Mr. Frazee advised that Irving has the capability of initiating a pre-employment background investigation on its employees through a private investigative service, and that U.S. citizenship of all employees in the SP area has already been verified. Mr. Schaff later reiterated in private discussion, that the only significant

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investigative efforts concerning Irving employees has been accomplished by OSI (USAF) at the joint request of AFRDRP and OSA/CIA.

d. Mention was made that the percentage of faulty chutes had dropped from 60% to 10%. However, Mr. Schaff attributed the increase in quality primarily to the separate LAC reinspection of chutes after delivery by Irving rather than as a direct result of any significant internal improvement at the Irving plant.

Although the Irving Company staff appeared responsive to previously suggested improvements, only token measures seem to have been taken to implement any comprehensive security, personnel or industrial relations' programs for the plant.



ROBERT J. SELTER
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