

NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DECLASSIFIED BY: C/IART  
DECLASSIFIED ON: 25 JULY 2012

SEC E-0  
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1971 AUG 12 PM 8 47

SAFSS

ZCZCXQB406EIA0521WB691  
PP RUXQAA  
DE RUEIWC 795 2242144  
ZNY XXXXX KKK ZNM  
P 121902Z  
BT  
XXXXX

~~TOP SECRET~~  
HANDLE VIA BYEMAN  
CONTROL SYSTEM

| DISTRIBUTION |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| SAFSS        | A | 1 |
| Dr McLucas   |   |   |
| Dr Nako      |   |   |
| SS-1         |   |   |
| SS-2         |   |   |
| SS-3         | 1 |   |
| SS-4         |   |   |
| SS-5         |   |   |
| SS-6         |   |   |
| SS-7         |   |   |
| SS-8         |   |   |
| COMP         |   |   |
| SS-1/RF      |   |   |
| RD-2/RF      |   |   |
| FILE         |   |   |
|              |   |   |
|              |   |   |

1124  
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~~TOP SECRET~~ 121902Z AUG 71 CITE [REDACTED] 2437

PRIORITY WHIG  
HEXAGON SECUR  
FOR COL. BRADBURN FROM MR. BROWNMAN  
REFERENCE: WHIG 1048

1. RE YOUR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE LOST RV, FOLLOWING ANSWERS ARE KEYED TO YOUR QUESTIONS:

A. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE SOVIETS KNOW OR SUSPECT THAT WE FAILED TO RECOVER THE RV.

B. WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THEY HAVE NO CAPABILITY TO RECOVER IT.

C. THE SOVIETS DO NOT NORMALLY MONITOR OUR AIR RECOVERIES.

2. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE A CAPABILITY TO MONITOR OUR RECOVERIES AND COULD IMPLEMENT IT VERY EASILY IF THEY CHOSE. THEY KEEP A SEAGOING TUG ON STATION IN THAT PART OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN, PRIMARILY TO SUPPORT THEIR OWN NUCLEAR SUBMARINE OPERATIONS. THE TUG IS EQUIPPED WITH SOPHISTICATED

COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND PRESUMABLY COULD MONITOR

PAGE 2 [REDACTED] 2437 ~~TOP SECRET~~

REENTRIES IF THE SOVIETS CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO DIVERT IT TO IT. HOWEVER, WE HAVE CHECKED AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT ON THE DATE IN QUESTION IT WAS NOWHERE NEAR THE REENTRY AREA.

~~TOP SECRET~~

BT

~~TOP SECRET~~  
HANDLE VIA BYEMAN