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OPTICAL TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
OPTO-MECHANICAL DESIGN ENGINEERING

Memorandum ME 64

TO: Distribution

DATE: October 8, 1971

FROM: L.B. Molaskey ✓

SUBJECT: Status of RV-3 Recovery (Telecon to Cdr. Mooney, Sub Dev. Group I)

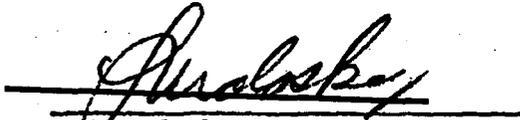
I called Cdr. Mooney to inquire as to the status of the RV-3 recovery tests which are continuing off San Diego. He indicated that the second dive had been completed but that the Trieste was unable to locate the test shape on the bottom. He indicated that the Trieste surfaced about 5 miles from the target point. No explanation was given for the error.

Cdr. Mooney indicated that a third dive is scheduled for early Friday morning and suggested that I again call him to check the status. He said that even if they can't locate the shape that they will operate the hook on the next dive to check its operation.

I suggested an alternate means for opening the hook, which may prove to be simpler than operating the opening mechanism. The scheme was simply to lay the closed hook on the bottom and lift it with the mechanical arm from one side, similar to the way it was recovered on the first dive. This will allow the hook to open by gravity and the latch will hold it in the open position. He agreed to notify the pilots of this scheme.

Cdr. Mooney indicated that the search ship DeSteiguer is also having problems. It seems that after they left Hawaii for the recovery area they experienced a failure in their Loran "C" satellite navigation system and in their tracker. They have returned to port for repairs and are currently awaiting receipt of a part for the tracker.

He agreed that tentative plans should be made to arrive in Hawaii about the 26th of October. He indicated that either he or Capt. Packer will also be going out to supervise the recovery operation and that we should plan to use the same means of transportation from Hawaii to the recovery site. He will make the necessary arrangements.


L.B. Molaskey

LEM/cj

cc: M. F. Maguire
H.W. Robertson
R.W. Jones
C. Karatzas

P. Petty
R. Roylance
J. Braddon
[REDACTED] (HQS)

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