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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

8 July 1964

Dear John:

Your proposal for initiating six months of preliminary design and engineering pointing toward the development of the FULCRUM system has been brought to my attention. If you agree, in order to insure that all possible alternatives have been explored, I believe we should ask the ~~(S)~~-DNRO to direct the completion of comparative studies, meanwhile authorizing the CIA to pursue only those designs and tests that are necessary to establish the feasibility of the proposed FULCRUM camera concept.

The results of these studies should become available in January 1965. We will then have the information necessary to determine whether a development should be undertaken, and for selection of a system. At that time we can discuss the assignment of responsibilities for development and operational employment.

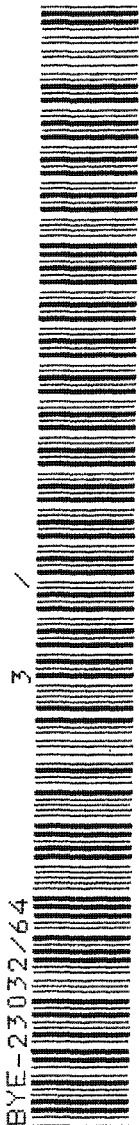
Sincerely,

signed "Cy"

Deputy

The Honorable John A. McCone

Director of Central Intelligence



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