30 October 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Special Projects Staff

SUBJECT: Weekly Status Report No. 6 on Project FULCRUM

1. Camera System

a. ITEK - ITEK is continuing their efforts on Task one ("Twin 60's") and Task two (104° camera system) at about a two to one ratio, as revealed by manpower and costing data. The testing of the Task one brassboard design has slipped about one week, but ITEK feels they will still meet the 1 February deadline. A number of the most recent technical memorandums have been received and made available to SPS personnel. Of particular interest among these were the stereo angle report and the fast film trade-off report. A formal briefing on the technical aspects of both camera systems has been scheduled for 2 November. A close look will be taken at that time at the progress and problems encountered in the 104° system.

b. P. E. - The P. E. personnel that attended the Lockheed briefing last week were pleased with the data obtained. Revised cost estimates were submitted for all tasks (except the autofocus and re-imaging optics tasks) at a figure of $466,085. The next technical review is scheduled for 6 November.

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c. STL - Messrs. Crowley and [redacted] visited Mr. Reeves on 30 October for a program review, following Dr. Scott's technical discussions with Mr. Reeves the previous day. Their film handling analytical effort for both the continuous and intermittent film transport systems is progressing satisfactorily on schedule.

2. Spacecraft

All spacecraft competitors have submitted their proposals at the end of their six-weeks effort. These are currently being evaluated and, following a visit to the facilities of all competitors during the week of 9 November, a final decision for a continuation of the spacecraft design during Phase I will be made during the week of 16 November.

3. Recovery Systems

Both competitors are expected to meet their 2 November response date. A similar visit to facilities and subsequent selection will be accomplished during the same time period as that described above for the spacecraft competitors.

4. Systems Engineering

The launch vehicle specifications due date has been rescheduled from 16 November to 23 November. The decision to provide these launch complex and booster specifications, when completed, to the Air Force was made this week, despite the understanding that no Phase II commitments can now be made.
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5. Interface Aspects

It is intended that the first interface exchange will be made during the program management meeting to be held in Washington sometime during the week of 23 November. Efforts are also underway to present a briefing to the Director, HEO, on 30 November or shortly thereafter on the status of Project FULCRUM. A memorandum to the DDCI through the DD/S&T on the subject of long lead-time items was sent on 30 October, in which it was stated that by releasing $200,000 for A&E efforts for the camera assembly and test facility by 15 November and $250,000 for operational glass by 1 December, an overall saving of $59,500,000 would result.

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