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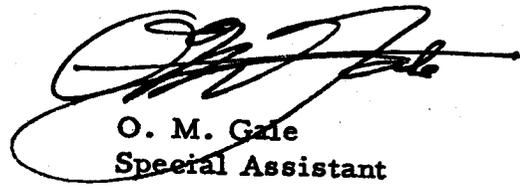
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

17 August 1959

MEMO FOR MR. ALBERT P. TONER
THE WHITE HOUSE

The attached items are submitted by the Department of Defense for possible inclusion in the daily summary for the President.

Items 1 through 6 of this report have also been forwarded to Dr. Kistiakowsky.


O. M. Gale
Special Assistant

Attachments

8 items.

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C-1177

WHEN WITH ATTACHMENTS

R-2

06-M-0886

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SN #610, SSN #2 to SN #610

2. DISCOVERER V (Secret)
(Reference Items 3 and 4, August 14, 1959 Report)

DISCOVERER V, launched at 1500 EDT on August 13 was programmed to initiate recovery operation approximately 27 hours later. Separation of the recovery subsystem from the vehicle remaining in orbit did occur at 1742 EDT on August 14, but recovery was not achieved.

Telemetry data reveals that complete recovery sequence was very likely unsuccessful because of low voltage on mercury battery which should have fired squibs to allow parachute deployment. Very low nose cone temperature was cause of low voltage. Exit temperature from launch into orbit was much lower than expected and therefore not sufficient to remove white paint which was to have burned off. Heat balance on orbit was thereby upset.

Paint is being removed from DISCOVERER VI nose cone prior to launch to correct low temperature on orbit condition.

DISCOVERER VI is now scheduled for launch at 1400 EDT on August 18, 1959. Objectives are the same as for previous launch.

(See SSN #1 to 612 (confirm phone call to Mr. M. M. Miel 8/17/59)
(2nd listed)
(combined w/ item # 4) 8/17/59

SN #613
Combined with Report # 3, 500, 8/17/59

(Corbin destroyed 8/18/59)

8-17-59

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3:45P