MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: (Secret) Thor - Vanguard Satellite Exploitation Plan.

1. To assure adequate and timely exploitation of the raw photo materials obtained from the advance version of 117L (Thor - Vanguard), the attached readout and data reduction plan has been prepared by my Reconnaissance Branch. In this plan, consideration has been given to community wide intelligence requirements and an effort has been made to assure adequate and timely distribution of duplicate copies of the photo materials as well as resulting reports.

2. It is my understanding that Air Research and Development Command is now investigating equipment to process and exploit this photography. Our requirements for this equipment were stated in a memorandum to your office, subject: Ground Handling Equipment - WS-461L, dated 21 January 1958. In this memorandum we expressed our desire that the processing and exploitation equipment developed would not only fulfill the requirements of WS-461L but for other future systems such as the advance version of 117L (Thor - Vanguard).

3. Therefore, it is requested that you give this plan your consideration in the development of equipment and the operational plan for this project.

MILLARD LEWIS
Maj Gen, USAF
Asst Chief of Staff, Intelligence

Incl
Readout & Data Reduction Plan,
w/incl (2 cys)

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INFERRED, NOT AUTOMATICALLY.
DECLASSIFIED, DOD DIR 5800.02

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Dear Retland,

Cal mentioned left this paper with me. He is concerned about the use of Tho-Vicuea terminology rather than Tho-117-L. I am more concerned about what is to develop over, e.g., etc. concepts. We should be doing that after which they can given to Mr. U.S.T. for review and approval.
READOUT AND DATA REDUCTION PLAN FOR PHOTO MATERIALS FROM THE THOR - VANGUARD SATELLITE

(117L)

1. PURPOSE: This plan outlines the assignment of responsibilities for the processing, exploitation and reporting of photographic materials recovered from the Thor - Vanguard satellite.

2. GENERAL:
   a. Facts:
      (1) The operational control and launching of the Thor - Vanguard satellite are the responsibility of the Air Research and Development Command.
      (2) Operations are tentatively scheduled to begin in October 1958.
   b. Assumptions:
      (1) Launchings will be executed from either Camp Cooke or Patrick Air Force Base dependent on the availability of launch stands.
      (2) A total of no more than 18 vehicles will be fired at a rate not to exceed two a month.
      (3) Recovery of the photo capsule will be made in the water by ARDC, Weather Service or similar agency to be designated by Hq USAF.
      (4) Initial processing and exploitation of all photo materials will be accomplished by SAC.
   c. Scope: The implementation of procedures outlined in this plan are the responsibilities of SAC and ARDC.

3. PROCESSING: Upon delivery of the photo capsule to CINCEAC, the film will be processed by the CINCEAC designated 'recoo technical facility and nine (9) high quality duplicates made immediately from the original negative. Distribution will be in accordance with the distribution listed in Annex "A".

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4. REPORTING:

a. Immediate P.L. Report: Within 24 hours after the completion of processing and duplication, an Immediate P.L. Report will be accomplished in accordance with paragraph 14a, Section IV and Section V, AFR 299-6 and electrically transmitted to agencies listed in Annex "A".

b. Mission Review P.L. Report: Within 72 hours after the completion of the DPR, the RT facility responsible for the processing will render a Mission Review P.L. Report in accordance with paragraph 15, Section IV and Section V, AFR 299-6, and make distribution in accordance with Annex "B".

c. Detailed & Special P.L. Reports: Detailed and Special P.L. Reports will be accomplished in accordance with paragraphs 16 and 17 Section IV and Section V, AFR 299-6, to fulfill requirements levied by Headquarters USAF.

4. SECURITY: All photo materials, raw or finished, and P. L. Reports, will be classified as SECRET and handled in accordance with AFR 299-1.

Incl
Annex "A"