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8 May 1964

Report 214

STOPPER - BIT Developments

A meeting at <sup>E</sup>EDL, held on 7 May, had about 20 people present. One near decision was made--that AF would pay for long lead items that we had authorized, when they placed their production contract. Much briefing was done.

On 8 May, Copley informed me that (a) it had been resolved that he had the production responsibility (b) that he wanted me to handle it, as I was handling all other productions in his EP series of projects.

On 8 May, Copley informed me that they had (at least nearly) conflicting instructions. SSD had an instruction (a) to put a BIT on all "C" vehicles and (b) to put nothing on the next three vehicles except primary payloads. Two of the next three are "C"'s, one A. They are trying to resolve these instructions before they decide on a production order.

Incidentally, this order to put nothing on the next three bumps Long John IV.

Harold has indicated that you would like a direct communication link with EDL. I would <sup>favor</sup> ~~force~~ this as the Air Force raises some detailed objection to each communication sent out-- wrong form, wrong word used, wrong man handled message to them, something always wrong.

The only channel for material containing SI or TK is back through the channel that EDL gets its SI and TK through--namely

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the ASA to Pentagon. (See Report 210 with question of what address to use). When communication concerns only [REDACTED] material, it could also use this channel if you are satisfied. The only other channel I know is from STL, Los Angeles, and I would have to hand carry it to Los Angeles--not very satisfactory, I fear. Do you have another path? We have a communication center at Moffet which is less than one mile from Lockheed and EDL, but the clearances do not exist for that channel, today! What is your pleasure?

EDL has asked for help in getting TKZ reports. They should get them for the Firefly "vulnerability study" which is now starting in earnest (since I talked with Jess Lien on 1 April). They are not able to get these through ASA at present. ASA has them and would send them to EDL if ASA had a request that they could honor. Normally, EDL must have a contract with someone that requires TKZ material. We are the only contact at present that can make this claim. Can you justify to ASA that EDL needs copies of TKZ reports? I am informed by Bob Jossun, EDL, that ASA has the copies available but needs a need-to-know from someone. Can we help?

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