REPORT 234
STOPPER AND BIT STATUS

The first BIT is complete and ready to use. No plan to use it exists, that I can discover. SSD, Los Angeles, has said that they want eleven more but they have not contracted for any more. Lockheed won’t receive the one EDL has completed. Reason (quote): "We have no contract to install it. We cannot install it in less than ninety days after we get a contract." Other friction has existed between Lockheed and the Air Force in recent months. I would judge that Lockheed is trying to use this box as a lever against the Air Force.

Recommendation - that you look into the intended use of the BIT built and future BIT’s that may be built and give me some guidance.

Only one Stopper is scheduled (on 2315 for 26 June.) Other attempts to get a Stopper scheduled in 1964 have not been successful. Stoppers will intercept if the vehicle is tracked. Suggest you supply a little pressure at NRO to get Stoppers scheduled.

Distribution:
Copy 1 - Mr. OEL
Copy 2 - OEL Reg.
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(typed 7 July 64)