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12 December 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Briefing on OXCART of Boeing, North American,
and Lockheed Chief Engineers by Mr. C. L. Johnson
10 December 1963

1. Kelly Johnson called me about 10:45 a. m., 11 December, to advise me that in accordance with our instructions he had, on the afternoon of 10 December, briefed in the "skunk works" in Burbank the chief engineers of Boeing, North American, and Lockheed's own California division, on the basic technology implicit in the OXCART Program.

2. He said that he had given them about an hour's briefing followed by a trip through the production line and associated support facilities after which the group reconvened in his office for nearly an hour of discussions and a question and answer period. According to Kelly the whole thing went smoothly and there were no surprising questions or difficult items to answer.

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3. The visitors were security briefed on OXCART by [redacted] OSA Security Officer, in the "skunk works" and appropriate forms were signed. Kelly said that there was no request from any of the gentlemen for further briefings at this time. You will recall that we had suggested to him the possibility that a more detailed briefing would be needed sometime during the week of 16 December.

4. As far as prior knowledge of the OXCART program, Kelly said that while each of the chief engineers concerned admitted to knowing "Kelly was up to something" none of them on being questioned said that they had any idea it was this sort of a project of this magnitude.

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JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Assistant Director
(Special Activities)