

25X1A

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

MSG [REDACTED]
UNIT [REDACTED]
EXT 5682
DATE 14 JUNE 67

Release 2000/08/25 : CIA-RDP33-02415A000800290003-8

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	INITIALS
	ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	INITIALS

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TO SECRET

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OXCART

25X1A

REF: [REDACTED] 7117, 7126, 7080, 7068, 7118

FOR KELLY JOHNSON FROM JOHN PARANGOSKY

1. ^{VGX} IT IS GENERALLY RECOGNIZED THAT THE DEPLOYMENT OF OXCART, AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LED TO THAT DEPLOYMENT, MIGHT AFFECT THE PHASE OUT DECISION OF LAST DECEMBER. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO ANTICIPATE WHAT NEW DECISIONS MAY BE MADE, ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS CONTINGENCY PLANNING ON THE BASIS OF WHAT MAY HAPPEN, WITH THE PRIMARY CONSIDERATION BEING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY. OUR PRESENT OBJECTIVES ARE (A) ASSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT, (B) MAINTAIN A POSTURE WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO OPERATE BEYOND DECEMBER 1967 WITHOUT INTERRUPTION IF THAT DECISION IS MADE, AND (C) IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE IMMEDIATE DECISIONS ARE NECESSARY. WITH

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REGARD TO THE LATTER, WE MUST DISTINGUISH BETWEEN LONG RANGE GUIDANCE AND SHORT RANGE GUIDANCE FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. FOR THE MOMENT WE CAN ONLY GIVE YOU SHORT RANGE GUIDANCE WHICH WILL ENABLE YOU TO PRESERVE THE OPERATIONAL ASSETS AND KEEP OUR OPTIONS OPEN FOR A PERIOD OF 90 DAYS OR SO, DURING WHICH TIME WE MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE POLICY DECISIONS WHICH ARE NECESSARY.

2. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, WE BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING ASSUMPTIONS ARE VALID FOR THE NEXT 90 DAYS. IF THERE ARE CRITICAL AREAS NOT COVERED BY THESE ASSUMPTIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

- A. THE DEPLOYMENT WILL LAST FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS.
- ✓ B. THREE OXCART AIRCRAFT WILL REMAIN DEPLOYED.
- ✓ C. THREE AIRCRAFT CREWS PLUS ONE BACKUP CREW SHOULD BE IN POSITION AT [REDACTED] 25X1A
- D. AIRCRAFT 124 WILL CONTINUE AT PRESENT RATE OF FLYING AT [REDACTED] 25X1A

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E. AIRCRAFT 122 EFFORT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARDS
OPERATIONAL READINESS PROGRAM INCLUDING FLIGHTS AS REQUIRED
 25X1A AS OUTLINED IN YOUR [REDACTED] 7080. UPON COMPLETION READINESS
PROGRAM, AIRCRAFT WILL BE TURNED OVER TO DETACHMENT

F. AIRCRAFT 121 FLIGHT EFFORT THROUGH 30 JUNE 67 SHOULD CONTINUE AS PLANNED NOW. FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING SUBSEQUENT TO 30 JUNE 67, 121 SHOULD CONTINUE TESTS BUT ON A REDUCED FLIGHT PROGRAM IN ORDER TO KEEP CURRENT AND READY FOR CONTINGENCY INSTRUMENTED FIELD SERVICE PROBLEM SOLVING IN SUPPORT BLACK SHIELD. LEVEL OF ACTIVITY SHOULD BE GEARED AROUND MINIMIZING COST AS MUCH AS IS CONSISTENT WITH MAINTAINING THE PERSONNEL AND SUPPORT CAPABILITY FOR ABOVE PROBLEM SOLVING CONTINGENCY.

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G. REMAINING THREE OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT WILL FLY 12 TO 16 SORTIES PER MONTH TOTAL.

H. DECISION TO PHASE OUT IN DECEMBER 1967 MAY OR MAY NOT BE AFFIRMED.

3. YOU SHOULD MAN TO SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL AND MAINTAIN THESE PERSONNEL CAPABLE OF DEPLOYMENT AS YOU DEEM NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE ABOVE BASIC ASSUMPTIONS.

4. YOUR SUB-CONTRACTORS SHOULD MAN TO MEET YOUR REQUIREMENTS TO SATISFY THE ABOVE ASSUMPTIONS.

5. YOU WILL BE ADVISED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE THAT AFFECT YOUR PRESENT POSTURE.

6. SPARES WILL BE PROCURED AND DELIVERED TO MEET THE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES OUTLINED HEREIN AND WILL BE LIMITED FOR THE PRESENT TO CRITICAL ITEMS WHICH WILL BE MANAGED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS AND GENERALLY SUBJECT TO DELIVERY BEFORE 31 OCT 67.

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7. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE LIMITED TO THOSE NEEDED FOR SAFETY OF FLIGHT AND TO SUPPORT THE OPERATIONAL COMMITMENT. EACH MODIFICATION WILL BE HANDLED ON AN INDIVIDUAL CCB BASIS.

8. TECH DATA WILL BE MAINTAINED AT MINIMUM COST, I.E., "SLIP SHEET" BASIS FOR THE OPERATIONAL AND TEST AIRCRAFT.

END OF MESSAGE

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