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31 January 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR : Special Requirements Staff, DD/R

SUBJECT : Accessibility of LANYARD Take to the British

1. On 26 February, when it is planned to launch the first LANYARD shot, we are faced with the question, should it be successful, of what the U. S. position in general, and the intelligence community in particular, will be with regard to making the take available to the British at JARIC.

2. I have been unable to determine informally whether or not the current crisis over the continued existence of LANYARD as a separate security classification has been resolved. As you know, our position, supported by Dr. Scoville, is that there is considerable reason to treat LANYARD about in the same way that MURAL was treated when it was blended into CORONA.

3. I would appreciate if you could either give me your thoughts on how this matter can be attacked, whether it is a proper subject for discussion in the COMOR as a preliminary for fuller discussion in USIB, or just what should be done. As the frequency of LANYARD shots increases, it will be readily apparent to the British that something has happened to CORONA, if the level of take made available to them from this latter source drops off significantly without troubling anyone apparently.

4. There is, of course, a separate but related problem having to do with the different film format of LANYARD as opposed to CORONA and the problems this might present the British were the take suddenly dumped upon them without some sort of advance warning and preliminary technical information. I am not sufficiently technical myself to know how much of a problem the British face in acquiring new equipment if they are in fact to receive LANYARD.

Declassified and Released by the N R C

In Accordance with E. O. 12958

on NOV 26 1997

REF ID: A66718

but in the interest of international amity, I do think we should be bringing this issue to the surface and ask whatever august bodies need to be approached how best to handle it.

[REDACTED]
Acting Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

Distribution:

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DAD/OSA: [REDACTED] /mm