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DPD-0806-50  
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5 February 1959

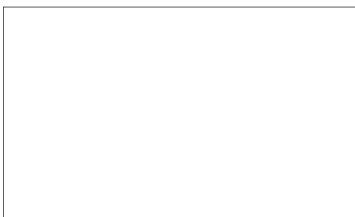
MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)  
THROUGH : Director of Development and Procurement, DPD  
SUBJECT : Trip Report,

12/ 2/11

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1. During the period of 13 to 17 January 1959, the above referenced officer visited Hycan Mfg. Company primarily to re-view M&O facilities, personnel and Hycan support at the test site.

2. Personnel contacted during the course of the visit were:



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3. Review of monthly maintenance and overhaul reports for the past two (2) months has shown a decline in number and types of project equipments going through the Hycan M&O facility. This, coupled with cancellation of all work on the "C" configuration and only a casual project requirement for Hycan personnel at the test, it was felt the problem should be reviewed to insure maximum utilization of personnel and equipments.

4. While at Hycan, it was impossible to get a firm count on total people employed at Plant 9 (M&O) but an estimate of about 32 was given. This included those to be used at the test site, as required, and M&O. With an actual count of approximately 22 working in the shop the total of 32 seemed to be realistic. However, a telephone call from  after the undersigned's return changed the overall total to 45. This figure seems to be high since it is more than double the number counted doing actual shop work.

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5. Also of importance, it should be noted that the project does not have main configurations (A-1, A-2 or B) going through M&O or scheduled to go through in the near future. Therefore, it is felt that a greater percentage of the time charged to Contract BC-450 should be for FOJ requirements.

6. Although Hyeon has moved their test site personnel back to the M&O facility (effective 1 January 1959, per Hqs. instructions) they expressed concern over such action for several reasons:

- a. Test site needed to train additional or new Tech Reps.
- b. Would not save the project money since these men would be charged in M&O anyway.
- c. Might lose the services of some of the test site men. (Ex.: )
- d. Overall support to the project would suffer.

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7. It was pointed out that the project could not support a full complement (5 or 6) of men at the test site full time for the small amount of work to be accomplished. As for the training of Tech Reps, it was suggested they be given detachment type training during periods when Hyeon is supporting Hqs directed requirements at the site or when flight testing FOU equipments. This is on the job type training to familiarize the Tech Rep with the type of work expected of him, if and when he is assigned to a detachment. As to project M&O support, it was admitted by the undersigned that during the short periods requiring Hyeon support at the test site the M&O line would suffer somewhat. It was also pointed out that with present equipment status this short delay would be acceptable.

8. Since Hyeon had expressed deep concern over deactivation of the Hyeon test site detachment, and if they felt continuation of a permanent party was necessary to properly support the project, they could document such justification and forward it to Hqs. for consideration and approval. Until such time, Hyeon support at the site would be on an On-Call basis.

9. In view of the above, it is felt that an additional and extensive review of the Hyeon facility, to include job positions, total positions, overhead and direct hire charges, is desirable at an early date.

10. During the course of the visit, the following additional items of interest were noted, discussed, and actions taken as indicated.

11. 73-B Configuration:

- a. Hyeon was asked to include complete exchange information in service bulletins on equipment component modifications

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when sent to the field. REF: "B" configuration film drive assemblies returned from Detachment B in error leaving "B" configuration SN-2 inoperative for over 30 days.

b. During the visit Hyeon informed the undersigned that they had obtained three (3) yellow filters (Written #12) for the "B" configuration. They were going to ship one (1) to C detachment, and one (1) to B detachment and keep one (1) at the test site for testing to see if it would improve the "B" take. After returning to Hqs it was found that Hyeon had not purchased three (3) but a total of 16 filters, ten (10) for FOG and six (6) for the project, at \$220.00 each. Further investigations indicate that the above filter is identical to the present one incorporated in the "B" configuration optical system.

c. Without a doubt, Hyeon's only objective is to improve the take, however, indications are that the above new filters (purchased without Hqs or FOG approval) will not appreciably affect the take but only require an increase in exposure if and when used. In other words, it is believed the filters may turn out to be useless.

d. Flare baffles for the "B" configuration hatch have been completed and will be shipped to the detachments in the near future as a modification kit. The baffles which help to reduce flare from the camera windows will snap in place between each window and remain part of the hatch.

e. It has been decided that the mirror in the "B" configuration can be successfully changed by Hyeon personnel at the detachments. Shipment of the first mirror to Detachment "C" for "B" configuration SN-10 has been delayed approximately two (2) weeks since the spare mirror turned milky when cleaned at Hyeon just before shipment. Mirror is being returned to P&E for recoating and will be forwarded to Detachment "C" by courier when completed.

f. FOG has generated a requirement for overlapping verticals with modes three (3) and (4), "B" configuration. Hqs and the undersigned feel that this change is also desirable for project configurations since it only requires rewiring the stepping switch. Hyeon will be asked in the near future to proceed with the modification as outlined in their technical proposal of 12 January 1959. (Document on file in PDO).

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g. Hycan has been conducting vibration tests on the "B" configuration, measuring mirror, shutter and platen movements, in attempts to improve take quality. Several flight tests have been instrumented to date. Hycan was asked to evaluate information gathered and conduct additional tests at the M&O facility before requesting and making additional flight tests.

h. Continued evaluation of "B" photography is showing a difference in quality between the beginning and the end of a mission. Degradation of the first part of the mission seems to be due to the rate of temperature change. As indicated in Hycan's Memo, Subject: Degradation of First Part of Mission Due to Rate of Temperature Change (B Camera), dated 16 Jan. 1959, and on file in PDO, it may be desirable to change operational procedures to have camera heaters on during the entire mission. As soon as a "B" configuration can be made available Hycan will be asked to conduct three (3) additional flight tests per their recommendations, with only a slight modification per recommendations of this office.

12. Personnel:

Personnel assignments to Detachments C and B were reviewed and all problems seem to be resolved. Hycan at present has one man  on hand that can be trained as back up for either detachment. Best estimates, by Hycan, on personnel attrition for next year was three (3) to five (5) men. Should the loss prove to be five (5) there may be a problem in finding qualified replacements.

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13. Processing:

The training of P&E men at each detachment as processors of tracker film was agreed to by Hycan. Instructions are being forwarded to each Hycan supervisor, by Hycan, to accomplish such training at an early date.

14. Security:

A review was made concerning the handling of project messages. The security seems to be good. Messages are filed in a special file and reading is limited to the following personnel:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.
- g.

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**15. Mission Reports and Maintenance Logs:**

a. Detachment B's recommended maintenance log was left with Hycon for their review and recommendations. Expedient action was requested since it is deemed desirable to implement standard maintenance logs for each equipment component at an early date.

b. Since assignment of P&E personnel to Detachment C each mission has been reported by two (2) TWX messages, one (1) for Hycon equipments and one (1) for P&E equipments. Hycon was asked to insure that the above information be included in one message to insure complete and timely receipt of the desired information.

**16. Conclusions:**

a. Plant #9 seems to be overstaffed for the number and types of equipments going through the Hycon Maintenance and overhaul facility.

b. Requirement for a permit detachment of Hycon personnel (5 to 6 men) at the test site no longer exists.

c. Under the present contract (BC-450), it is possible for Hycon to accomplish undesirable modifications and/or procure unwanted items without prior approval of Hqs.

d. "B" configuration mirrors can be changed at each detachment without special assistance from Hycon.

e. Vertical exposures in Modes 3 and 4 with the "B" configuration are desirable.

f. That camera bay temperatures may be affecting the take of "B" configurations.

g. Security at Plant #9 is good.

h. That equipment maintenance logs and a mission reporting guide (photo equip., processing info., etc.) are necessary.

**17. Recommendations:**

a. That an additional and extensive review be made of the Hycon facility in the very near future to include job positions, total positions, overhead and direct hire charges.

b. No other action be taken by this Hqs. on Hycon test site personnel unless justified by additional requirements.

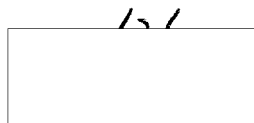
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c. That a change letter be issued in connection with Contract BC-450 requiring Hqs approval before proceeding with and/or issuing equipment modifications.

d. That Hqs make every effort to implement maintenance logs and mission reporting guide (photo equip., processing info. etc.) at an early date.

e. Modes 3 and 4, "B" configuration be modified to include vertical exposures.

f. Three test flights be made to resolve camera bay temperature problems.



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DFD-DD/P: 

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