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30 June 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. Dr. McMillan's office called this morning to seek an immediate appointment with me for him. He arrived a few minutes before noon and stated that he had been debriefed by Secretary Vance of the meeting between Mr. McCone, Mr. McNamara, and Mr. Vance of yesterday afternoon. He stated that his first order of business was to follow up on his discussion with Wheelon and me yesterday afternoon on CORONA contract. He stated that the one contract expired at midnight tonight and that he had to have an answer by 4:00 p.m. this afternoon to a memorandum of this same date which he placed on my desk. I did not read the memorandum while he was here but said that I would look it over shortly and see what action was required. My only reason for not reading the memorandum in his presence was that I was already late for an award ceremony at which I was making the presentation.

2. Dr. McMillan said that the only reason he had not told me who his new Chief of Staff would be was that he had not yet talked to the officer. He said that Mr. McCone told Mr. Vance that Dr. McMillan had refused to give me the officer's name. He told me now that the officer is Brigadier General James T. Stewart, who is a very vigorous, very capable officer whom he thought would get along better with our people than Martin.

3. Dr. McMillan told me that Mr. McCone had been most outspoken yesterday in talking to Vance. I stated that he had every right to be -- that in trying to find out who was to be the new Chief of Staff I called Gene Kiefer who said he did not know and upon my probing said he had not been consulted. I told Dr. McMillan that he should have consulted Mr. Kiefer, his deputy, and certainly Mr. McCone or me before making such a key appointment. Dr. McMillan said he was glad that Mr. McCone recognized that Mr. Kiefer was the deputy, and that this was the first time to his knowledge that Mr. McCone had contacted Kiefer. I told Dr. McMillan that, on the contrary, we had more contact with Kiefer than we had with him, and that it was apparent that Kiefer had little or no contact with McMillan and NRO, and I suggested to Dr. McMillan that he recognize and use Kiefer as a true deputy.

NRO review(s) completed.

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4. I then stated that the manner in which the [redacted] had been handled was entirely out of line and that Mr. McCone had been, in my opinion, most tolerant of McMillan's failures to make the NRO work as a partnership. Dr. McMillan said that there was no question about this, that Mr. McCone had every reason to be upset about the [redacted] and that this was his (Dr. McMillan's) fault.

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5. Dr. McMillan seemed visibly distraught and I felt he was under great tension.

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[redacted]

Marshall S. Carter  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director

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