

~~(S)~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

13 June 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR BCO, STATE (Attn: Mr. William McAfee)

SUBJECT: GAMBIT Security

Analysis of available data regarding the Failure of the GAMBIT Mission of 20 May 1972 to achieve orbit indicates that debris from the spacecraft may have fallen

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

It is requested that you advise concerned subordinate elements to report any information relative to the sighting or reporting of the entry of space debris as specified in paragraph 3.

Inquiries outside the BYEMAN System can include the following information at the SECRET level:

"A classified U. S. spacecraft launched 20 May 1972 failed to achieve orbit. Indications are that debris from it may have fallen along a corridor approximately 30 miles wide

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Request any information you may receive or have received concerning the sighting or reporting of the entry of space debris during the time frame 20 May 72 to present. No reference to U. S. satellite operations should be made at the unclassified level".

WORKING PAPERS

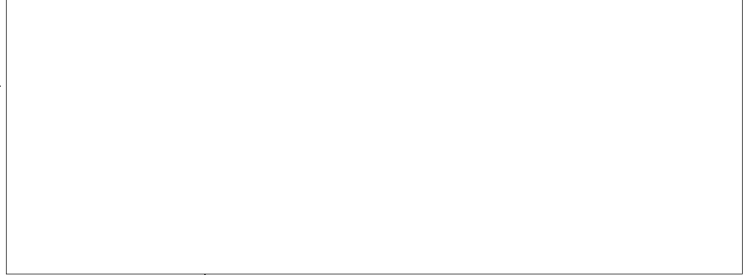
GAMBIT
HANDLE VIA
BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

~~TOP SECRET~~
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC REGRADING
DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

CONTROL NO. BYE-12878-72
COPY # 2 OF _____ COPIES
PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

(b)(3)

Please submit any reports to the NRO as soon after received as possible.



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NY XXXXX YYY
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~~SECRET~~

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

WHIG 5967

MANOR 225

1972 JUN 13 PM 3 44

BT
XXXXX
OPCEN 419
OPCEN PASS PILOT

SAFSS

B 093

~~SECRET~~ 131919Z JUN 72 CITE WHIG 0808
MANOR PILOT
GAMBIT SECUR
MANOR FOR BCO; PILOT FOR CSSC
SUBJECT: GAMBIT SECURITY

WORKING COPY

1. ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE DATA REGARDING THE FAILURE OF THE GAMBIT MISSION OF 20 MAY 1972 TO ACHIEVE ORBIT INDICATES THAT DEBRIS FROM THE SPACECRAFT MAY HAVE FALLEN



(b)(1)
(b)(3)

2. IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU ADVISE CONCERNED SUBORDINATE ELEMENTS TO REPORT ANY INFORMATION RELATIVE TO

DISTRIBUTION		
SAFSS	A	I
Dr McLucas		
Dr Naka		
SS-1		
SS-2		
SS-3		
SS-4		
SS-5		
SS-7		
SS-		
COMP		
SS-MRF		
RO-2/RP		
FILE		

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

PAGE 2 WHIG 0808 ~~SECRET~~
THE SIGHTING OR REPORTING OF THE ENTRY OF SPACE DEBRIS AS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 3.
3. INQUIRIES OUTSIDE THE BYEMAN SYSTEM CAN INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AT THE SECRET LEVEL:
"A CLASSIFIED U. S. SPACECRAFT LAUNCHED 20 MAY 1972 FAILED TO ACHIEVE ORBIT. INDICATIONS ARE THAT DEBRIS FROM IT MAY HAVE FALLEN ALONG A CORRIDOR APPROXIMATELY



REQUEST ANY INFORMATION YOU MAY RECEIVE OR HAVE RECEIVED CONCERNING THE SIGHTING OR REPORTING OF THE ENTRY OF SPACE DEBRIS DURING THE TIME FRAME 20 MAY 72 TO PRESENT. NO REFERENCE TO U.S. SATELLITE OPERATIONS SHOULD BE MADE AT THE UNCLASSIFIED LEVEL".

4. PLEASE SUBMIT ANY REPORTS TO WHIG AS SOON AFTER RECEIVED AS POSSIBLE.

~~SECRET~~
BT

~~SECRET~~
HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
CONTROL SYSTEM

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

13 June 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR NASA, BCO

SUBJECT: GAMBIT Security

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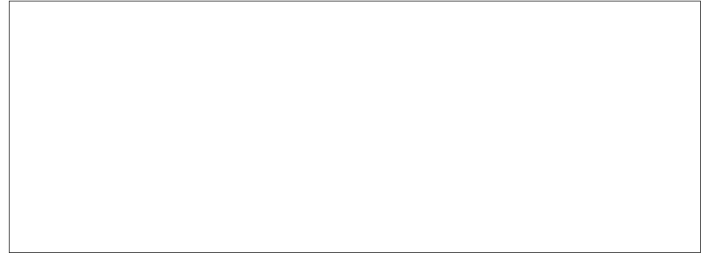
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WORKING PAPERS

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(b)(3)