



~~SECRET~~ HEXAGON

KEY MILESTONES
IN
FULCRUM/HEXAGON PROGRAM

MAY/JUNE 1963	DCI CONVENES PURCELL PANEL TO DETERMINE FUTURE ROLE AND POSTURE OF U.S. RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM
JANUARY 1964	CIA STUDY EMPLOYING 25 PI'S TO ASCERTAIN RESOLUTION REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY MAJORITY USIB TARGETS
FEBRUARY 1964	CIA FUNDS ITEK STUDY TO DETERMINE FEASIBILITY AND POTENTIAL INTELLIGENCE VALUE OF VARIOUS SENSORS IN SATELLITES
MAY 1964	STUDIES CONCLUDE THAT WIDE AREA COVERAGE CONSISTENT WITH HIGH RESOLUTION WAS REQUIRED AND PROPOSAL FOR SUCH A SYSTEM BRIEFED TO DNRO
JUNE 1964	DCI CONVENES LAND PANEL TO CRITICALLY EXAMINE CIA PROPOSED SYSTEM. PANEL RECOMMENDED THAT IT BE VIGOROUSLY EXPLORED WITH TECHNICAL EMPHASIS IN A SIX MONTH, PHASE I EFFORT TO ASSESS:

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- A. HIGH SPEED FILM TRANSPORT
- B. STABILITY AND NOISE OF CAMERA BEARINGS
- C. WEIGHT COMPATIBILITY TO TITAN II
- D. COMPONENTS OF ANGULAR MOMENTUM ASSOCIATED WITH THE ROTATING CAMERA AND THE HIGH SPEED FILM SUPPLY

JULY 1964

PHASE I BEGINS WITH ITEK AND PERKIN-ELMER WORKING ON CAMERA DESIGNS

AUGUST 1964

AIR FORCE INITIATES COMPETING DESIGNS EASTMAN-KODAK AND ITEK

FEBRUARY 1965

LAND PANEL CONVENES TO EVALUATE COMPETING DESIGNS

MARCH 1965

PERKIN-ELMER ACKNOWLEDGES ITS CAPABILITY TO BUILD CAMERA SYSTEM INCORPORATING CERTAIN MAJOR MODIFICATIONS TO ITEK'S OPTICAL BAR DESIGN

JULY 1965 THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 1966

SUSTAINING EFFORTS AT PERKIN-ELMER IN COMPETITION WITH DESIGNS AT EASTMAN-KODAK AND ITEK

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1 OCTOBER 1966

DNRO AUTHORIZES SELECTION OF PERKIN-ELMER AS SENSOR CONTRACTOR FOR HEXAGON SYSTEM

AUGUST 1967

LMSC SELECTED AS SATELLITE BASIC ASSEMBLY (SBA) CONTRACTOR

APRIL 1968

CIA SIGNS DEFINITIVE CONTRACT (CPIF) WITH PERKIN-ELMER

JUNE 1968

MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS SELECTED AS RE-ENTRY VEHICLE CONTRACTOR