

1 April 1964

FROM: P.E.

SUBJECT: Monthly Activities Report for March 1964

TO: Commander, WRSP-IV

1. Flight Activities: In addition to scheduled flight activities, the Personal Equipment Section furnished P.E. support for LAC, [redacted] and [redacted]

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2. Training: A brief discussion period had been conducted with [redacted]

[redacted] concerning the operation and use of the Q445 seat pack. Discussion led to the firm belief that present water survival techniques require re-evaluation. Telecon with [redacted] revealed that the pools are currently being refinished and will not be available for another month. The P.E. section will undertake a study of the current procedures and attempt to improve upon them.

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3. Seat Pack Maintenance: In addition to routine maintenance, [redacted] serviced 4 ARDC and 1 LAC seat pack.

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5. Research and Development: Parachutes, five (5) each, type T-10 (HALO) had been received from depot at the direction of [redacted]. The type T-10 has a 35 foot canopy, a feature that is highly desirable for use by this organization. At the direction of Hqs, one of the T-10s is on loan to LAC. Preliminary findings reveal that the parachute is 1½ to 2 inches thicker than the present B-5. [redacted] LAC pilot, tried the chute on for determining room and comfort in the cockpit of the article. He complained of a pressure point across the back and that the chute pushed him forward approximately 1½ to 2 inches into the yoke although he still had sufficient room to manipulate the controls. The pressure point in the back can possibly be relieved by careful repacking of the canopy risers in the chute. The thickness can

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possibly be resolved by modification of the pack assembly. This is an area of extreme importance insomuch as there is a question of the pilots ability to clear the edge of the canopy with his legs upon ejection. *Q445/6642/6644/*

6. Q445 Seat Pack: The Q445 seat pack is entering the final stage of development.

STATINTL A visit to LAC by [redacted] to discuss the

STATINTL seat pack with [redacted] concluded

with the following recommendations:

a. Install rabbit ear on the personal leads quick disconnect for indication of positive lock of PLQD.

b. Test for pilot comfort on long duration flights extending to approximately 6 hours (accomplished at EAFB).

c. Jump testing (to be accomplished at El Centro).

d. Install improved set of carrying straps.

e. Determine best seat cushion for use with the seat pack.

f. Improve accessibility of adjusting nuts to kit control cables.

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