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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Files

DATE: 12 March 1963

FROM : [redacted] 25X1A9a

SUBJECT: Trip Report - Solar Charger and Tracker [redacted] 25X1A5a1

1. On 6 March 1963 a visit was made to [redacted] 25X1A5a1 to discuss the fabrication of solar chargers. The following persons were contacted:

[redacted] 25X1A5a1

2. Mr. [redacted] gave a briefing on the solar panel state-of-the-art and [redacted] capabilities in this field. This company has furnished the solar panels for the [redacted] satellites. As indicated in the attached letter, [redacted] can fabricate a low cost tracker and concentrator which would increase the energy output of a solar panel over a full day by 150 per cent. This capability would enhance the use of a solar panel as a charging source greatly. [redacted] is in a position to obtain solar cells at a very reasonable cost. This has come about since it has been found that P on N solar cells are damaged by radiation in space. Solar cells for space use are now N on P types, therefore many P on N solar cells originally made for space use are now available. It is recommended that [redacted] be asked to propose testing out J&B solar panel in a tracking situation. They are instrumented with servo-controlled trackers with mounts for solar panels. Additionally, [redacted] could fabricate two solar charger panels with clock-type trackers to supply 17.5 volts at one amp for charging sealed ventable cells.

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3. Of possible interest is [redacted] capability in the digital systems field. (See Attached brochure).

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[redacted] 25X1A5a1

Attachments:
1) Contractor's Letter dated 6 February 1963
2) [redacted] Brochure 25X1A5a1

Distribution:
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