

CONFIDENTIAL

14 January 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Cancellation of Project ED-135 Balloon []

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1. The object of Project ED-135, Balloon [] was to investigate various possibilities for determining accurately the upperwind vectors from the site of a balloon operation. The standard method is by use of a pilot balloon and theodolite which introduces an error into these calculations and is somewhat time consuming. Two methods were considered as possible fields for exploration; one was the utilization of the pillow balloon as a tracer; the other was the utilization of Radar Wind Sounding techniques used by the Air Force and Weather Bureau.

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2. A [] site near Andrews AFB was visited and [] of the US Weather Bureau R&D Lab was cleared as a contact for this work. [] of APD visited [] and Andrews [] for familiarization with the problem.

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3. A series of pillow balloon studies conducted by [] was accomplished. An interim system proposed by [] of [] and [] forwarded to this office was rejected as being too inaccurate. Further studies indicated that a pillow balloon is accurate only to \pm or - 500 feet below twelve thousand.

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4. Current plans are to stay away from the complexity of a Radar installation and to continue the investigation of comparatively simple methods such as the utilization of the Radiosonde and pillow balloon etc. Since this work will be done on a low priority basis it is planned that it be undertaken under the ED-139 project and therefore it is requested that ED-135, balloon [] be cancelled.

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