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BYE-22158-64
7 April 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Plans and Development *JWC*

SUBJECT: Automatic Data Block Reader

1. There are numerous new cameras and camera systems in development by several different companies. Most of these systems will provide the time of exposure and other data, either recorded on the film or via some other means, such as magnetic tape.

2. When data is recorded on the film it usually is recorded in digital or other coded form. It is necessary to both read the data as recorded on the film and convert it to decimal form for use. Because of the large volume of material involved, the scarcity of manpower to hand read, and timeliness of the information it is imperative that an Automatic Data Block Reader be available for reading the data block and presenting it in proper form for direct input to a computer for conversion to decimal form.

3. The present reader developed by the Collateral Support Division is suitable for reading the KH-4 data block and may be modified to read data blocks of similar characteristics. However, this reader does not appear capable of reading some of the different formats in different codes at different scales being developed for use in some of the new systems.

4. Attached is a sample of the data block format and an interpretation of the code for the 116A camera system.

5. Request action be taken to assure the availability of an Automatic Data Block Reader for use with the 116A system at the time this system becomes

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operational. It is offered for your consideration that the Chief CSD, [redacted] may be of assistance in this development. He has reviewed the attached sample pointing out the similarity of the data block to Minicard code blocks and also indicated it may be possible to modify his present primary reader to read this type of presentation. Because of his interest and possible assistance, I have sent him a copy of this memorandum with attachments.

[redacted]

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Chief, Technical Intelligence Division

Attachments:

- 1 - Sample of Data Block
- 2 - Interpretations of Code

Distribution:

- Cy-1 - P&DS
- 2 - CSD
- 3 - TID/TAB
- 4&5 - TID

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