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OXC 6003-63  
Copy 4 of 4

26 November 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Technology, OSA

SUBJECT : Status of KEMPSTER A

1. Relative to your request this morning on the "up-to-the-minute" status of KEMPSTER A. I have talked to

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[redacted] in the [redacted]

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2. [redacted] states that they have had one moderately encouraging test despite many difficulties. This test was run in a "bogus" system, an environment in a tank using the differentially pumped windowed electron gun with a "sick" or leaky window.

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3. In a couple of weeks, [redacted] hopes to have a windowed electron gun that does not have to be pumped.

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4. The non-windowed gun is the subject of additional work in order to eliminate the electrical breakdown attendant to its high-voltage operation. [redacted] believes this problem will be solved within a couple of weeks also.

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5. The test equipment in the "Q"-bay has been carried several times by article 126. Up to now, there has not been actual operation of this equipment because the environment has not been attained. However, it has been "turned on" and "turned off" in the air.

6. In conclusion, the undersigned believes that, even if [redacted] is successful in operation of its KEMPSTER A, there is little chance that it will ever be used operationally, because of the great weight, 250 lbs or more, per gun and potentially high-power requirements.

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25X1 7. [redacted] has informed [redacted]  
of [redacted] of this on his visit here to Headquarters  
on 10 October 1963.

*SIGNED*

[redacted] 25X1A  
Engineering and Analysis Division  
OSA

25X1A  
EAD/OSA: [redacted]  
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