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9 July 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Current Intelligence
SUBJECT : New York Times Article, 8 July, concerning
USAF DISCOVERER Program

1. A review of this article reveals no compromising information or statements that have not heretofore been speculated on by the press. Statements referring to the DISCOVERER as a "spy in the Sky", "reconnaissance-packed vehicle", "engineering test bed for components of the SAMOS and MIDAS programs", for biomedical purposes, etc., are all past press probes.

2. Cover story for this particular DISCOVERER shot, XXVI, is attached. As you may or may not know, this Program is run by the Air Force, hence all press comments come from it. However, the Agency establishes the CORONA and ARGON cover stories, in cooperation with the Air Force. The CORONA aspect (Reconnaissance) of the DISCOVERER Program is entirely covert and controlled by the Agency.

Distribution:

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