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8 DEC 1058

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: SAC Maneuver of Sealed-Pit Weapons (S/RD)

1. Reference is made to your memorandum for the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, dated 29 September 1958, subject as above, wherein you outlined the Presidential approval for SAC airborne alert exercises. This memorandum also contained a request for periodic submissions to the President's briefing book of the progress of the airborne exercises. The information contained herein represents the first submission of the progress reports.

 Operation HEAD START is an airborne alert exercise utilizing B-52 aircraft. Operating from (b)(1)

Each aircraft flies approximately this same triangular course twice during each mission, is refueled once by a KC-135 tanker, for a total mission time of approximately 19 hours.

3. Pursuant to the Presidential approval, operation HEAD START was commenced with sealed-pit weapons on 3 October 1958. During the period 3 - 31 October 1958, results were as follows:

a. Aircraft Scheduled - 116

760MERLY RESTRICTED DATA

b. Aircraft Airborne - 108

Unauthorized disclosure subject to Administrative and Criminal Sanctions. Handle as Restricted Data in Foreign Dissemination Section 144.b. Atomic Energy Act 1954.

c. Missions Completed - 106

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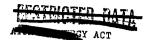
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- d. Effective Hours Scheduled 1920:20
- e. Effective Hours Realized 1783:09
- f. Effectiveness 92.8%
- g. Accidents/Incidents None
- 4. It is requested that the above information be submitted for the President's briefing book.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

SIGNED

N. F. TWINING, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Distr:

Chairman, JCS (2) DCSOPS Secy to CNO (JCS) Dir/Plans, AF MarCorps L/O

(JCS 2019/348 - Approved 5 December 1958)

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