

JUN 10 1968

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : CB/All Astronauts

DATE: June 10, 1968

FROM : CB/Alfred M. Worden

SUBJECT: High Energy Squib Simulator use during Chamber Run

1. An item of discussion at the CCB last Friday was the use of the HESS box during manned chamber runs. This item was presented because there was some concern expressed by the flight crew about the safety considerations. Basically, the concern for safety centers on:

a. Leaving one panel (PCVB) open during the run to allow cabling to the HESS.

b. Allowing an out-of-configuration condition (extra box and loose cabling) during the run.

c. Allowing a possible unsafe condition to exist during the run (having flash bulbs go off during the ELS sequence).

2. After some discussion it was agreed that the safety requirement had been adequately met. The box is triple sealed and the whole unit, including cabling, is built to spacecraft standards. However, it was also agreed that the ground rules for test will be violated if we leave the panel open. Also, it is not good policy to have loose cables and equipment in the CM during test.

3. Alternatives presented were to:

a. Do the HESS check during the unmanned run. This would require sending a man into the chamber during descent to set the switches and has not yet been coordinated with KSC.

b. Mount the HESS box in a GSE panel to replace the PLVB panel. This would eliminate the cabling problem.

c. Do the test as presently planned. In this case North American will be responsible for routing and covering the cable.

4. Please indicate your choice (if any) of the three possible methods listed above.

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Al Worden

CB/AWorden:ps

6-10-68

