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Approved for file

5 May 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT : Silencer for the FAL Automatic Rifle.

REFERENCE : 5 May 1964 Conversation between Nestor Sanchez and the undersigned.

1. On 5 May 1964 Mr. [redacted] of TSD was called, and a request for FAL silencers was made with the following specifications:

1. Three were needed on a crash basis.
2. The silencer, if possible, was to be designed in such a manner that it could be adapted to any standard FAL automatic rifle (light barrel) without modification to the rifle itself.
3. In addition to the above three silencers TSD was to check the ease and cost of procuring 25 to 50 such silencers.
4. The silencer in addition to limiting the explosive noise from firing would also have to eliminate the sonic boom connected with the standard FAL round. Furthermore, this would have to be done through the silencer itself rather than through a new type ammunition for the FAL that had a muzzle velocity less than the speed of sound.

2. A preliminary report was received from TSD the afternoon of 5 May 1964 stating the following:

1. Things looked hopeful, and a detailed preliminary report would be forwarded to the undersigned prior to the close of business 8 May 1964.

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Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
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2. It appeared the silencer would be a unit that would include both the silencer per se, and a rifle barrel (this would fit a standard FAL automatic rifle - light barrel model) modified to reduce the muzzle velocity of the standard FAL round to less than the speed of sound, thus eliminating the sonic boom.
3. This project, if successful, will provide a silencer that can be used on any standard FAL automatic rifle (light barrel). It will continue to fire a standard FAL round with a silencing effect that would eliminate to the barest minimum, both the noise from the explosion of firing the bullet, and the noise created by a bullet's muzzle velocity that is greater than the speed of sound.

C. W. Hicks
C/WH/SA/WOB/PM

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