FIELD NOTE 11: ACQUISITION BEFORE ALIGNMENT

REFERENCE TRIAL 31

Mount 2 / Channel B

21 AUGUST 1967

Author: I. Marek

No. Keep separate.

Source: laboratory carbon copy

Recovered: Cabinet 4, drawer labelled SPARES

Chronology confidence: 94 percent



CONTEMPORANEOUS EVENT RECORD

18:04 – Requested repeat of random acquisition sequence. Mount parked at calibration grid. Channel B nominal. No target selected.

18:04:12 – Channel B indicates VEGA LOCK. Assumed retained display. Reset attempted. Lock returns.

18:04:17 – Asked operator to choose next catalogue target. Operator opens list without instruction.

18:04:23 – Operator selects Vega. Mount begins normal slew. Lock indication does not change during motion.

> Channel acquired target eleven seconds before target existed in the command queue.
>
> I. Marek / written at 18:11

Checked clock twice.
Then used another clock.

ATTEMPTED REPRODUCTION

TRIAL	OPERATOR INTENTION	LEAD	OUTCOME
32	Vega intended	−11.0 sec	Lock
33	Sirius intended	No lock	Terminated
34	Random / Vega	−11.0 sec	Lock
35	Random / Altair	No lock	Terminated
36	Vega false label	−10.9 sec	Lock
37	Blank / then Vega	−11.1 sec	Lock

The signal correlated with the eventual Vega choice, not the catalogue label, mount position or command state.

It is waiting at the answer.

ANTHROPOMORPHIC LANGUAGE

DISPOSITION AND LATER CROSS-REFERENCE

Engineering disposition (1967): retain as unresolved pre-command correlation. Do not use as a performance claim. Do not repeat with personnel present unless Human Factors approves.

Recovered Materials annotation (1993): Department 7 record D7-44-3 describes an independent event with a translated interval of eleven seconds. The closing sentence reads: 'The apparatus would not permit another answer.'

> This is not acquisition. It is recognition.
>
> Original margin note / handwriting attributed to I. Marek

Do not let Advanced Transit call this negative latency.

CROSS-INDEX
AT-RD-04