1 we have the four-page document, with the first page dated July 12, 2001 and the last page being color 2 3 copies of two photographs, marked as Exhibit Number 4. 4 (Battin Exhibit No. 4 - Three-Page Letter Dated 5 July 12, 2001 With One-Page Attachment - was 6 7 marked for identification.) (Discussion off the record.) 8 9 BY MR. HERMES: Q. Dr. Battin, I have placed in front of you a 10 multiple-page document. Do you recognize that as 11 12 being the cover pages and the portion of the page --13 and a portion of a book which you wrote, An 14 Introduction to the Mathematics and Methods of 15 Astrodynamics, Revised Edition? 16 Α. Yes. And is that a revised edition that was 17 Q. produced in 1999, sir? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 Are you the sole author of this book or did Q. 21 others contribute to it, chapters to it? 22 Α. Sole author. 23 Q. On page 17 -- well --

MR. SWOPE:

Referring to the page

1 numbers.

BY MR. HERMES:

- Q. Page 17 of the book --
- A. Yes.
- Q. -- Arabic 17, there is a paragraph, the third paragraph on that page, which begins, "One day, when plotting a few of these Venusian reconnaissance trajectories, I was impressed by the proximity of the spacecraft orbit." Do you see that, sir?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. When was it that the plotting of the Venusian reconnaissance trajectories took place when you became impressed by the proximity of the spacecraft orbit and the Martian orbit resulting from the increased velocity induced during the Venusian fly-by?
 - A. Don't know.
- Q. Was that sometime within months of January 26, 1961 or was it sometime earlier than that? Can you tell me that?
 - A. Well, yes, months.
- Q. Can you tell me -- well, do you recall, sir, whether in your book <u>Introduction to the Mathematics</u>

617-451-8900

1	and Methods of Astrodynamics you included the
2	trajectory to which you made reference on page 17?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. sir?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. On page 17, do you know where in the book
7	that trajectory is?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. Where, sir?
10	A. I can find it.
11	MR. SWOPE: Let's just find it here.
12	THE WITNESS: It's not in there. It's
13	in here. It's way in the back.
14	A. It's page 433, Figure 9.5.
15	Q. And do I take it, sir, that the trajectory
16	to which reference is made and which is shown on
17	page 43 (sic) has a date in the upper left-hand
18	corner Feb. 20, 1963?
19	A. Oh, yes.
20	Q. All right, and what was it about this
21	trajectory that impressed you, sir?
22	A. The outer circle is the orbit of Mars, and
23	the launch is from the Earth, and the inner circle
24	is Venus. When you pass by the planet Venus, they

1	intercept on March 26, 1963. You're going to be way
2	out almost to the orbit of Mars before it returns to
3	the Earth on February 5, 1964.
4	Q. I think in one place, you referred to a
5	distance of 1.35 astronomical units
6	A. Right.
7	Q as opposed to the orbit of Mars being at
8	1.38 astronomical units; is that correct?
9	A. Right.
10	Q. Yes, sir?
11	A. Yes.
12	MR. SWOPE: Could we go off the record
13	just a moment?
14	MR. HERMES: Sure.
15	(Discussion off the record.)
16	BY MR. HERMES:
17	Q. Dr. Battin, I don't Mr. Swope has
18	MR. SWOPE: Let me state for the record
19	that I asked a question about the conformity of the
20	dates when we were off the record between what's on
21	page 17 and what Dr. Battin has referred to on page
22	433 to try to keep some clarity to this record.
23	BY MR. HERMES:
24	Q. Now, sir, I think what I made reference to

1 was that you were plotting Venusian reconnaissance 2 trajectories, and you were impressed by the proximity of the spacecraft in a certain way; 3 correct? 4 5 Α. Yes. And does the figure on page 433 of your book 6 Q. 7 illustrate the trajectory which -- as to which you 8 were impressed? 9 Α. Yes. 10 0. All right. 11 MR. SWOPE: That is, just for the 12 clarity of the record, the trajectory to which 13 reference is made in the third paragraph on page 17? 14 THE WITNESS: Yes. 15 MR. SWOPE: Okay. 16 BY MR. HERMES: 17 Now, you go on, on page 17, to say, "The Q. 18 interesting possibility of a dual contact with both 19 planets seemed feasible, a kind of celestial game of 20 billiards." You made that statement, sir? 21 Α. Yes. 22 When did it occur to you that there was the Q. 23 possibility of dual contact with both planets being

feasible for your celestial billiards?

1 When did that occur? Α. 2 Yes. When did that occur to you? Q. Well, it would be sometime after this 3 trajectory was calculated, which was in the -- would 4 5 be in the spring of 1959. 6 Now, with respect to the possibility of dual 0. 7 contacts with both planets, is it of relevance -strike that. With respect to the possibility of a 8 9 fly-by of both planets, was the location of Mars relevant at the time the spacecraft approached the 10 11 orbit of Mars? 12 Α. I don't understand. 13 Let's focus on page 433, sir. Q. 14 Α. Okay, right. 15 0. Apparently the Figure 9.5 --16 Α. Yes. 17 -- on page 433 refers essentially to a Q. 18 certain period of time when the orbit of a 19 spacecraft approached the orbit of Mars: correct? 20 Right, right. Α. 21 And apparently when the spacecraft Q. 22 approached the orbit of Mars --23 Α. Yes.

-- Mars, in fact, was not at the location of

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Q.

1 closest approach; is that correct? 2 Α. That's correct. 3 All right. In order to have a multi-planetary fly-by, isn't it a fact, sir, that 4 5 you needed to know the location of Mars? Well, you had -- yes, of course. 6 Α. 7 All right, so that it wasn't sufficient, for 8 these purposes, that you simply had the spacecraft 9 approach the orbit of Mars; correct? 10 That's correct. Α. 11 Mars, in fact, had to be at the same Q. location as --12 13 Had to be there, yes. Α. 14 0. And in connection with the work -- and in connection with the calculation of the 15 16 multi-planetary fly-bys, the Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth 17 fly-bys, do I understand that at the time you did 18 the work depicted on page 433, you had not done a 19 calculation of the location of Mars? 20 I think you told me that Figure 9.5 on page 433 was prepared sometime in the spring of 21 22 1959; is that correct? 23 Α. That's right.

And at that time, at least, you were not

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Q.

thinking about multi-planetary fly-bys?

A. No.

- Q. And at that time, you were not focusing on the need, in order to have a multi-planetary fly-by, that the spacecraft approach Mars in its orbit rather than simply cross the orbit of Mars?
 - A. That's true, yes.
- Q. And do I understand that it was not until sometime in late 1960 or perhaps early 1961 that the idea first occurred to you that you could have the multi-planetary fly-by and use the gravity assist of Venus to get the spacecraft to Mars?
- A. That was a long sentence. How did it begin?

 MR. HERMES: Could you read that back,
 please?

(The reporter read back the portion requested.)

A. When it first occurred to me is obviously something that I don't exactly know, but I do know when this Earth-Venus-Earth trajectory was calculated and when I plotted it, and it was in 1959, that you look at it and you can -- anybody could look at that and say: Oh, you're coming close to the Mars orbit. Wouldn't it be nice if Mars were there?

1	I mean, that's the sort of little light
2	that goes on; and I don't know when that happened,
3	but it had to happen after I had produced this
4	Earth-Venus-Earth trajectory.
5	Q. But sometime before you actually attempted
6	to calculate the trajectory for the multi-planetary
7	fly-by; correct?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. And do I take it that you cannot tell me
10	precisely when that occurred?
11	A. No.
12	Q. Your answer is no?
13	A. No.
14	MR. SWOPE: No, you cannot?
15	THE WITNESS: I cannot.
16	BY MR. HERMES:
17	Q. And you cannot relate it to a particular
18	year?
19	A. I can relate it to an interval.
20	Q. And the interval was what, sir?
21	A. Early 1959 to January 26, 1961.
22	Q. Did you recognize any particular
23	implications of that observation, that is, the
24	possibility of a multi-planetary fly-by, in that

interval period?

- A. Could you say that again?
- Q. Well, you observed apparently that the spacecraft would approach the Martian orbit?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And I think in one of the prior answers, you said words to the substance -- to the effect of "wouldn't it be nice if Mars were there"; correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Did that observation on your point -- on your part have any particular importance for you at the time you first had it?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. All right. What was the importance?
- A. We were calculating round-trip trajectories to Mars for a specific project that we were working on, and the round-trip times were in excess of three years.

This orbit from Earth to Venus back to
Earth was a little over a year total flight time, so
that if Mars were there, you could visit Mars and
get back to Earth, instead of in three years, you
could do it in a little over one year. That's why
it was important.

- Q. What was the importance of the time difference being one year possibly -- or approximately one year as opposed to three years?
- A. Because we were designing a spacecraft to be launched to take a picture of Mars, and it was going to have to operate all by itself with no communication with the Earth. It would be very nice to get it back in a little over a year rather than having to wait over three years, especially if the sponsor said we can't fund anything that's going to take three years before we get it back.
- Q. And do I understand, sir, in the late 1950s, you, at the MIT Instrumentation Laboratory, were working on Martian trajectories, sir?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And you were working in the context of planning for a manned mission to Mars?
 - A. No, no.
 - Q. An unmanned mission to Mars?
 - A. Unmanned.
- Q. Why was it that you were working on such a mission?
- A. After the Sputnik, which was in 1957, October the 4th, it became clear that space was

going to be the next big thing; and if the

Instrumentation Laboratory was going to have any
role in this, we better get started.

So a few of us said let's put together a project which we can fund with -- by the Air Force, because the Air Force did have discretionary money that we could do anything that was relevant to us to do. So we designed this little spacecraft, and I was the one responsible for generating the orbits, the round-trip orbits to Mars.

That little spacecraft had an interesting history. If you want to see it, you can go over to the Draper Laboratory. A wooden model of it is hanging from the ceiling. It's the most famous spacecraft that never flew.

But we did work very hard on it, and we were trying to put together a package to take to the new NASA, which was just being formed; and this idea of -- we didn't originally have Venus in our sights because Venus was always covered with clouds, whereas if we could take a picture of Mars, we could take a picture of the surface of Mars.

After we had done an extensive round-trip to Mars, I said, well, why don't we try

1 Venus and see what happens, and this is what 2 happened. Q. The "this is what happened" at least 3 temporarily refers to the results you claim to have 4 achieved on January 26, 1961? 5 6 No, no. We were able to cut -- we could get to Venus and back in about a third of the time as to 7 8 get to Mars and back. 9 I see. That's because Venus was closer than 0. 10 Mars? 11 Α. No, it's just the way the mechanics works 12 out. 13 Now, sensing the importance of the ability 0. to reduce a Martian mission from three years to one 14 15 year, sir, did you put that information in writing 16 in any particular place? 17 Α. Yes. 18 0. when did you do that for the first time? 19 It was in the spring of '61 when I was 20 preparing this Draper Anniversary volume and also 21 preparing notes for my class, which I taught for the first time in 1961. 22

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Q. Did you -- at the time you say that you

1 multi-planetary fly-by using gravity assist to be an 2 important development? The -- it was an interesting development if 3 4 you were planning to actually fly that mission. 5 only had a launch window of about a week and a recurrence of about every six years. 6 7 wouldn't expect a sane person to say, well, let's 8 target that, and if we miss it, well, we'll wait

Isn't it a fact, sir, that when you first wrote about this idea, you described it as an astronomical oddity?

another six years to do it again.

- Α. Yes.
- Q. And you didn't think it was a practical idea?
 - No, not that particular trajectory. Α.
- At some point, did you come to regard the possibility of multiple planetary fly-bys as something other than an astronomical oddity?
 - To put that into context --
- Q. No. Please answer my question, if you can, sir. If you can't, please say so.
 - Say it again. Α.
 - At some point after you wrote this Q.

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particular trajectory was an astronomical oddity, did you come to have a view that a multi-planetary fly-by using gravity assist was not an astronomical oddity?

- A. I don't -- the question doesn't -- I don't understand the question.
- Q. All right. At some point, did you come to understand that the Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth trajectory, which you included in your lecture notes for the Draper book, was something other than an astronomical oddity?

MR. SWOPE: Object to the form of the question. You may answer.

- A. I think that whatever -- the terminology "oddity" is not really, I think, a good description. All I can say for sure is that the launch window was about a week; and for practical applications, that particular trajectory would not be useful. The idea, though, that you could use another planet to change the round-trip flight time was significant for the future.
- Q. The term "astronomical oddities" is your term, is it not?
 - A. Probably. Sounds like something I would

have said.

Q. In fact

notes that went

report that the

are little more

A. Yes.

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Q. In fact, didn't you say, when you wrote the notes that went into the Draper book, "It is sad to report that these double reconnaissance trajectories are little more than astronomical oddities"?

- Q. And that's what you believed at the time you wrote that, sir?
 - A. Yes, and I would believe that today.
- Q. Do you know whether or not those astronomical oddities have been used for any purpose in connection with multi-planetary fly-bys?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. They have been?
- 15 A. Yes.
 - Q. Do you still maintain that they are astronomical oddities?
 - A. Those were.
- Q. Meaning the Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth?
- 20 A. Yes.
 - Q. At some point, did you come to understand that other trajectories, not being Earth-Mars-Venus-Earth trajectories, were not
- 24 | astronomical oddities?

A. The term "oddity" was that here you have an 1 2 event --3 Q. No. Please answer my question. I think my question was: At some point, did you come to 4 5 understand that trajectories using multi-planetary 6 fly-bys that were not Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth 7 trajectories were not astronomical oddities? Can you answer that yes or no? 8 9 MR. SWOPE: Or that you cannot answer it 10 yes or no. Would you like to have the question read hack? 11 I know what the question is, but --12 13 0. Are you able to answer my question as put to you, sir? 14 15 Α. No. 16 All right. As you sit here today, given all Q. 17 of your experience, do you think that gravity-assisted trajectories from multi-planetary 18 19 fly-bys are astronomical oddities? 20 Α. No. 21 Q. At some point, did you determine that 22 gravity-assisted trajectories from multi-planetary 23 fly-bys were not astronomical oddities?

A. I'll have to say yes to that.

- Q. Do you know when?
- A. When they started using them.
- Q. Is it fair to say that you did not recognize the use of gravity-assisted multi-planetary fly-bys as something important at the time you wrote the notes that referred to them as astronomical oddities?
- A. What I have said was that the two orbits that I generated were astronomical oddities in the sense that they occur only every six years and that using them for a mission is not practical. The fact that you could do it at all was remarkable or an oddity.
- Q. Do you equate "remarkable" and "oddity" as having the same meaning?
 - A. Sure.
- Q. Did you ever attempt to calculate trajectories for multi-planetary fly-bys other than for an Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth trajectory?
 - A. No.
- Q. And is it a fair statement, sir, that in or about August of 1961, your attention got directed elsewhere?
 - A. Yes.

58 1 Q. And is it a fair statement that in or around 2 August of 1961, the attention of the MIT 3 Instrumentation Laboratory turned to developing guidance systems for the NASA Apollo program? 4 5 Α. That is correct. 6 And that there was a contract which was 0. 7 signed in or about August of 1961 to develop those 8 quidance systems? 9 Α. Yes. 10 And is it fair to say that you never 0. 11 returned your attention to multi-planetary fly-bys, 12 at least for a period of some 30 years? 13 Α. Yes. 14 MR. HERMES: For the record, we will 15 mark a series of pages from Dr. Battin's book, An 16 Introduction to the Mathematics and Methods of 17 Astrodynamics, Revised Edition, as the next exhibit, which is Exhibit 5, and we will attach to this a 18 19 copy of page 433 of the book as an additional

22 MR SWO

Mr. Swope?

MR. SWOPE: That's great. Thank you.

MR. HERMES: Thank you.

portion of that exhibit. Is that agreeable,

(A recess was taken.)

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(Battin Exhibits Nos. 5 - Excerpt From An 1 Introduction to the Mathematics and Methods of 2 3 Astrodynamics, Revised Edition; and 6 - Lecture 4 Notes on The Trajectory Problem As It Relates To 5 The Mission For Interplanetary Flight - were marked for identification.) 6 7 BY MR. HERMES: 8 Q. Dr. Battin, I've marked as Exhibit Number 6 9 a multi-page document. Can you identify that 10 document, sir? 11 A. Yes, I can. 12 0. What is it? 13 It is lecture notes for my new course, which 14 met for the first time in 1961; and it was -- it had 15 a dual application. It was for lecture notes and it 16 was also as a manuscript for the Dr. Draper 17 Anniversary volume. 18 Now, I notice that one of the authors is 19 identified as Mr. Laning? 20 Α. Yes. 21 What contribution did Dr. Laning make to --Q. 22 To this document? Α. 23 Q. Yes.

Almost none.

Α.

Now, if you'd go to page 49, sir. 1 0. 2 Okay. Α. 3 There is a reference there beginning at the top, "returning momentarily to the Venusian 4 5 reconnaissance trajectory"? 6 Α. Yes. 7 And then you go on, do you not? 0. 8 Α. Yes. 9 And in the next -- that page, page 49, and Q. 10 page 50 --11 Α. Yes. 12 -- you refer to the Earth-Venus-Mars-Earth 13 multi-planetary fly-bys? Α. 14 Yes. 15 And those are the same fly-bys, are they not, that are depicted on Exhibit Number 2, the 16 17 computer printout? 18 Α. Yes. 19 And Exhibit Number 3, which was the document 20 prepared in 2000 correlating the numbers on Exhibit 21 2 to the trajectories; is that correct? 22 Α. They're all the same. 23 Q. All right, and your comment about astronomical oddities appears on page 50 at the 24

1 beginning of the last paragraph on that page; 2 correct? I guess so. Where? Page 50? 3 4 Q. Yes, sir, down the bottom, beginning of the 5 last paragraph. 6 Α. Yes. And then the next two pages, 51 and 52, 7 8 are -- that's Figures 26 and 27 -- are identified as 9 double reconnaissance trajectories; correct? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Now -- and also if we go to page 44, Q. Dr. Battin --12 13 Α. Yes. 14 -- Figure 21 --Q. 15 Α. Yes. 16 -- is the Venusian reconnaissance trajectory Q. 17 we referred to earlier --18 Right. Α. Q. -- is it not? And that is the trajectory 19 20 where you noted the proximity of the spacecraft's 21 path to the orbit of Mars? 22 Α. That's right. 23 Q. Now, with respect to pages -- the

trajectories referred to on Figures 26 and 27 on

1	pages 50 and 51
2	A. Yes.
3	MR. SWOPE: Excuse me, 51 and 52.
4	MR. HERMES: 51 and 52, thank you.
5	BY MR. HERMES:
6	Q. Did you draw those?
7	A. No.
8	Q. How were they produced?
9	A. They were produced by the publications
10	department at the Instrumentation Laboratory.
11	Q. Did you provide information to the
12	publication department at the Instrumentation
13	Laboratory from which those trajectories were
14	produced?
15	A. I certainly had to. They're not art
16	they're not artist sketches.
17	Q. Do you recall what you provided to them?
18	A. I can't tell you, but I could guess. Is
19	guessing all right?
20	Q. Well, guessing is not all right.
21	MR. SWOPE: I would I'm going to
22	instruct you not to guess.
23	BY MR. HERMES:

Q. If you could give me your best

understanding, I will listen to it.

- A. I would have had to, for each of these orbits, give coordinates, which would be easy to do if you've already got your computer laid out so that it will compute positions as a function of time.

 You could give -- you could indicate points so that they could put a smooth curve through them.
- Q. Do I understand, sir, that you have no specific memory of what you gave to the publications department?
 - A. No.
 - Q. My statement is correct?
- A. Yes.

- Q. You have no specific memory; correct?
- 15 A. That's correct.
 - Q. But it is your best judgment that what you gave to the publications department was a series of coordinates from which the trajectories could be produced?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And do you know in what form the publications department produced the trajectories?
 - A. Well, yes.
 - Q. What form was that?

- 1 They had a big poster, and they would take 2 yellow tape and sort of put it around so that the 3 orbits would stand out against the black background and the -- I was sure because I was -- that these 4 not just be sketches, that they really be accurate 5 plots. 6 7 Why was that? 0. 8 well, because a sketch is not -- if you've 9 calculated something correctly and precisely, you 10 don't want somebody to say, well, it looks like that. This was done very precisely. 11
 - Q. All right. Were slides ever made of --
 - A. Yes, they were.
 - Q. -- these trajectories?
- 15 A. Yes.

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- Q. Were they made by you?
- 17 A. No.
 - Q. Again, it was made by the publications department?
 - A. That's right.
 - Q. Did you ever have the original of those slides in your possession?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. How did that come to be, sir?

1 well, what do you mean by the original? 2 Well, I think I asked you the question "Were 3 slides ever made of these trajectories," and your answer was "yes"? 4 5 Α. Yes. 6 And my question, then, was: Did the slides, 0. 7 original slides ever come to be in your possession? 8 Α. Yes, I used them for my class. 9 So you used them on a regular basis? Q. 10 Yes. Α. 11 Year after year? Q. 12 Α. Yes. 13 Do I understand -- by the way, do you still 0. 14 teach the course at MIT? 15 Yes, I do. Α. 16 And do you still use those slides in your Q. 17 course today? 18 Α. No. 19 Do you recall -- do you still teach the same 20 material reflected in Exhibit Number 6 today? 21 Α. Yes, yes. 22 Q. And do you use other slides now? 23 Α. No. 24 Q. Do you use any slides of Figures 26 and 27?

A. When these charts were made, I could order them as slides, color slides, and then they would say how many do you want us to make, and I'd give them a number. They'd say would you like it in black and white; and if I said yes, they would hit black and white.

And so I just -- it was an over-the-desk type thing. They would probably, my guess, make two sets of slides; because when I retired from the lab, I was going to turn them in, and they said no, no, no, you keep them. They're yours.

- Q. Do you still have the original slides?
- A. Yes, yes.
- O. I notice here --
- A. It's not just for these, but it's for all of the other earlier papers. Slides exist for all of those.
- Q. I see. The terminology on Figure 26 and Figure 27 that refers to them as trajectories, is that your terminology?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Do you differentiate in your terminology between charts and trajectories?
 - A. Well, a chart, I mean, is a big piece of

cardboard, and these things were created on this piece of cardboard.

- Q. So do I understand that a trajectory that's depicted on a piece of cardboard is, in your parlance, a chart?
 - A. I would call it that, yes.
 - Q. Not a trajectory?
- A. Well, the trajectory is the trajectory. I mean, I'm talking about the medium on which it was created.
 - Q. All right.

- A. I think these were pretty big things, 3 by 5 feet.
 - Q. Do you know whether they still exist today?
 - A. Probably not.
- Q. Do you know when is it that you last were aware that they existed, if you can tell me?
- A. I think I only saw them once or twice, because I mean, you'd go up to the desk and you'd give them the information, and then they'd call you when it was done. And it usually would take a few days. They were constantly doing this, because people were using these for the same purpose I was, either to talk to, you know, seminars or to use in

1 briefing the customer. 2 Q. All right. Now, it's a fact, is it not, 3 sir, that Exhibit Number 6 was published in several different publications? 4 5 Yes -- well, not --6 Q. Can you answer that question? If not, I'll 7 ask you another one. Well, yes, they were. 8 Α. 9 All right. Q. 10 They were used for these notes, and they 11 were also used in the Draper Anniversary volume. It's not the same pages. This was a draft copy for 12 13 the typesetter who prepared the Dr. Draper 14 Anniversary volume. 15 MR. SWOPE: For clarity of the record. when you say "this," you're referring to Exhibit 6? 16 17 THE WITNESS: Yes. 18 BY MR. HERMES: 19 All right, but the language on pages 49 and 20 50 relating to the multi-planetary fly-by was 21 produced verbatim in the Draper book? 22 Α. Yes.

Which was published in 1963; correct?

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Q.

Α.

Yes.