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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

6 November 1959

SUBJECT: SAMOS, MIDAS AND DISCOVERER Programs



Personnel in Attendance:

- Dr. Charyk
- Maj Gen Davis
- Col Oder



1. The problem that was under discussion could be stated to be the transfer of satellite programs from ARPA to the Air Force. Dr. Charyk has agreed that the Air Force would prepare a new development plan to be submitted to Dr. York by 15 January 1960 and the operational plan with user relationships to be submitted to the Sec/Def by 15 January 1960. The ground rules for the new development plan must be consistent with 1) the new funds; 2) emphasis on the recovery package with high resolution; 3) adequate ground test and environmental testing; 4) a planned program for assuring reliability. We are to prepare a study for submittal to Dr. York on the type of facilities required to assure adequate testing of space programs. This is to determine whether there should be a central facility (AEDC) and/or concentrated facilities spread through the prime contractors.

2. AFDAT is to arrange a meeting next week (probably 13 Nov) to include the following people: Dr. Charyk, Gen Walsh, Gen Davis, Gen Boushey, and from ARPA Gen Ostrander, , and others. The purpose of this meeting is to get an agreement on the transfer procedure for space programs. With respect to the funds transfer the meeting held between Dr. York, Dr. Charyk and others on the 3rd of Nov established Air Force space program funds at dollars; therefore, the FY '61 funds planned were:

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(in millions)	DISCOVERER	SAMOS	MIDASM	TOTAL	NEW TOTAL
Air Force					
ARPA					
MCP					

Since the Air Force funds were cut from to the current directive for AFBMD to come in on 23 November must be cancelled since the plans are already out of date. The ARPA funds of

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are firm for FY '61. The Discoverer funds do not include Project "A". Dr. Charyk believes that this [redacted] is not irrevocable. The guidance to AFBMD should emphasize the criticality of funds but that if justified under the above ground rules the Air Force could recommend re-programming from lower priority projects within the Air Force budget of approximately [redacted]. It is imperative that the Air Staff give program direction to AFBMD on how to split up the Air Force and ARPA funds between MIDAS and SAMOS. In order to do this Dr. Charyk suggests a group be established in Hq to assure the documentation to OSD by 15 January 1960. The Weapons Board and the Ballistic Missile Committee are to be given a current status of MIDAS and SAMOS at the 18 and 23 November meetings on space launch pads.

3. Dr. Charyk stated that what is really needed is an understanding of the requirement for the readout program. OSD personnel are not convinced that a readout capability on a 2-hour basis at the specified resolution is valid for strategic intelligence. In order to emphasize the recovery program it would be better to research and develop payloads and not concentrate on so many flights. If the "C" program turns out to be useful it is probable that the number of flights will be increased and thereby increase the recovery program *fund availability* -

4. Dr. Charyk stated that the Communications Satellite is not very healthy. On his and Dr. York's trip out to SAC, General Power told them that moving the positive control line further out is not very important but rather positive control in the existing area is much more important; therefore, York's question "is the Communications Satellite the correct way to spend [redacted] to get better communications?" [redacted] then asked if Dr. Charyk was desirous of receiving the transfer request for the controversial items. Dr. Charyk replied that these should be handled in a different manner and that he wanted to discuss it at a later time.

5. The following actions are required:

- a. A TWX to AFBMD to relieve the 23 November deadline.
- b. Set up a meeting with ARPA and Air Staff group next week.
- c. Establish the new ground rules on which a development program is to be forwarded.
- d. Initiate a study for ground test facilities required for space programs.
- e. Establish guidance for distribution of the Discoverer, Midas, and Samos funds.

