



DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

27 JUN 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: DOD/NASA Joint Program Review

You will recall at the meeting on June 22nd that you and Mr. Webb discussed the budgetary problems confronting NASA and agreed to fully explore ways of reducing expenditures through joint action. Since then two meetings with NASA have occurred which bear on this agreement.

On June 25th, the MOL Program Office met with NASA to provide additional MOL technical details and plans. This information is being used in the NASA studies of various ways of using MOL hardware in their Post-Apollo Program. Mr. Mathews, NASA Deputy Associate Administrator, repeatedly emphasized during this meeting that NASA objectives involved sustained and continuous manned operation in space with emphasis on a large space station and rendezvous and resupply. The questions posed by NASA on MOL related to the maximum duration in space that might be possible with existing and planned MOL hardware for both "all-up" and rendezvous missions. It is important to note that the questions were not directed toward determining if MOL hardware could be used to do specific or presently defined NASA experiments. Detailed Air Force technical briefings were provided during this meeting and agreements made to follow up with more data at a later time to meet NASA's needs.

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Prior to the meeting it was determined by DOD representatives that AAP contractors had been told specifically by Mr. Webb that NASA can continue support of AAP at a \$3.75 billion funding level in FY 1969. This is somewhat at variance with our understanding of recent comments made by Mr. Webb to us. Congressional action to date places the NASA FY 1969 budget at the \$4 billion level prior to the \$6 billion expenditure cuts.

On the 26th of June, Mr. Palley, ODDR&E, met with Mr. Frutkin, NASA, on the general question of how to proceed with a joint review of related DOD and NASA activities, with a view toward saving money. Previously DOD had suggested a detailed list of all related activity and provided a suitable format which would identify comparable items in the DOD and NASA budgets. It was agreed that this format or program matrix would be followed. However, at NASA's suggestion, it was agreed that we would first attempt to identify specific items which appear to hold the greatest potential for savings through joint action for early detailed review. The manned space flight area, MOL-AAP, appears to have the greatest potential for long term savings. Other items include joint management of the NASA and DOD range operations at MILA and ETR, possible reductions in a recovery fleet for AAP-MOL, economies in launch vehicles, weather satellites and geodesy. The aeronautics area also appears to require examination. Specific statements to serve as guides to a joint review are being prepared on each item. Individuals in DOD and NASA will be identified to manage such reviews. An attempt will be made to develop this approach to the point where the detailed reviews can be implemented by 15 July.

s/ John S. Foster, Jr.

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