


DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

August 1, 1968

COLONEL WORTHMAN:

Attached memo was prepared in response to General Hedrick's letter (Tab A). As a matter of information, SAFSL's response is at Tab B.


JOHN R. MECEDA
Captain, USAF *W. 1 Aug*

For General Berg

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY




1 AUG 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL HEDRICK, AFRDS

This memorandum responds to your letter of June 21, 1968,
subject: "Assignment of USAF personnel to NASA."

Since we have never participated in a personnel exchange program with NASA, we cannot comment on or evaluate the program. We presently have no requirements for this exchange of personnel nor do we foresee any requirement in the future.

As a matter of information, we are closely involved in the coordination of manned space flight policy actions and provide direct DOD representation in this regard to a working level group chartered by the Manned Space Flight Policy Committee. An interchange of information in technical areas and in policy matters is afforded by this participation. This working group has been, and continues to be, active in providing coordination of policies relating to DOD and NASA activities in specified areas.


RUSSELL A. BERG
Brigadier General, USAF
Director
Office of Space Systems

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 20330



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

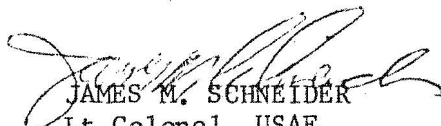
11 July 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR AFRDSA

SUBJECT: Assignment of USAF Personnel to NASA

Reference your letter dated 21 June 1968, subject: Assignment of USAF Personnel to NASA. Answers to your questions in paragraph 4 follows:

- a. We believe the procedure of assigning USAF officers to NASA should be continued with a change in selecting assignments for the officers upon their return to regular Air Force duty. The officers assigned directly to NASA manned space flight activities should be screened first against MOL requirements. The Vice Director, MOL Program, SAFSL, is the suggested contact point for such a review.
- b. Our immediate concern is to get well qualified personnel assigned to the program during the summer of 1969. Personnel assigned to the program in the summer of 1969 can be expected to be retained through our current flight schedule and provide the needed personnel stability.
- c. Officers should be assigned to the: 1) Office of Manned Space Flight and the Office of Space Science Applications, Headquarters NASA, for coordination and to gain experience; 2) area of Launch and Range Operations, Cape Kennedy; 3) Manned Spacecraft Center, Houston, Texas.
- d. The grade level should be Major and Lt Colonel for assignment to Headquarters NASA, (OSSA and OMSF) and for the Manned Spacecraft Center the predominant grade should be in the junior officer category.
- e. The length of the tour should be no less than 2 years and no more than 3 years. Requests for extensions of tours should not be approved.
- f. The MOL Program has 2 detailees from NASA, and we do not anticipate further requirements. We cannot speak for other AF requirements.


JAMES M. SCHNEIDER
Lt Colonel, USAF
Executive Officer, SAFSL



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFKDSA

SUBJECT: Assignment of USAF Personnel to NASA

21 JUN 1968

TO: SAFSL · SAFSS



1. Since 1958, the Air Force has assigned several hundred highly qualified officers to NASA. There have been two basic reasons for providing this support to NASA. First, support was in compliance with the National Space Act and DOD Directives which provides that "each department and agency of the Federal Government shall cooperate fully with NASA in making its services, equipment, personnel, and facilities available to NASA." An example is the unique technical and managerial skills available to NASA only from the Air Force. The second reason for placing highly qualified personnel with NASA has been to gain experience available only from NASA, or to support technology in which the Air Force has a high interest.

2. An analysis of job assignments of the approximate 200 personnel currently assigned to NASA indicates their duties range from engineering to program administrators. The majority of these officers are working in manned space flight support with a small number working in the NASA laboratories and unmanned space activities.

3. Until recently detailees assigned to and paid for by NASA were not included in the overall Air Force manpower ceiling. This accounting procedure has been changed and these detailees now count against the Air Force manpower ceiling.

4. A meeting will be held with HQ NASA in the near future to review the entire USAF/NASA Personnel Participation Program. Prior to this meeting, we solicit your evaluation of the practice of assigning USAF personnel to NASA. Specifically, we request your comments on the following:

- a. Should this procedure be continued?
- b. If so, what are your annual requirements from this program?
- c. What specific areas within NASA should these personnel work to gain experience applicable to your interests and to facilitate coordination between the Air Force and NASA?
- d. What should be the predominant grade level of the detailees?
- e. How long should the individual be assigned to NASA?

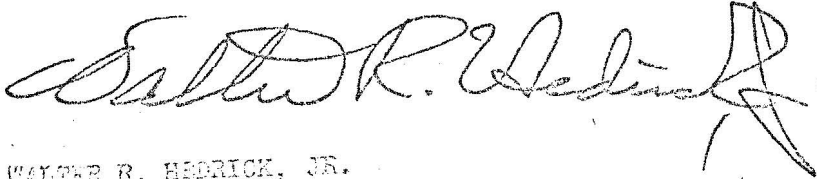
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f. Should the Air Force suggest a reverse procedure and ask NASA to provide detailees to Air Force functions? If so, how many should we request and where should they be assigned?

g. Any other information you desire to provide that would be of assistance in illuminating this subject.

5. We would appreciate your reply by 22 July 1968. The Air Staff OPR for this matter is Lt Col A.C. Barbee, AFRDSA, Extension 71727/72972.



WALTER R. HEDRICK, JR.
Brigadier General, USAF
Director of Space
DCS/Research and Development