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DAN: 080-032060 005064 ~~SECRET~~ R 20 022
INPUT CDSN = DKA602
TOR: 91908Z APR 80 TOT: 91908Z APR 80

PTTMZYUW YEXAAV 0686 1001901-MAHX--YEKDQR.
ZNY MMAHX
ZKZK PP AAZ DE
P 091900Z APR 80
FM SSO DMA WASH DC
TO SSO DIA
AFSSO USAF
ZEM
~~S E C R E T~~ DAMON HEXAGON BYEMAN CHANNELS ONLY DMA 230 APR 80
SSO DIA PASS TO SEC DEF FOR ADM D. MURPHY/[redacted] 3D239; AND TO
C-CUBED I FOR [redacted], 3E1014/[redacted] AND [redacted], 3C200
AFSSO USAF PASS TO SAFSS FOR DR. HERMANN/J. HILL/COL EASH FROM
WILLIAMS
SUBJ: DAMON METRIC EXPERIMENT ~~(S/B)~~
1. ~~(S/B)~~ RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SAFSP AND HQ DMA HAVE ADDRESSED THE BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH CONDUCTING AN MC&G METRIC EXPERIMENT AS PART OF THE DAMON PROGRAM. SUMMARILY THE CONCENSUS ARRIVED AT, REGARDING AN EXPERIMENT OF THIS NATURE IS:
DAMON, AS A COLLECTOR SYSTEM IN ITS DEFINED CONFIGURATION, HAS NO CAPABILITY TO MEET MC&G SOURCE MATERIAL NEEDS. IT'S BASIC HEXAGON PAN CAMERA SYSTEM, WHEN OPERATED AT SHUTTLE (150 NMI) ALTITUDES CANNOT PROVIDE IMAGERY OF SUFFICIENT QUALITY SUITABLE FOR MC&G EXPLOITATION. ADDITIONALLY, ADAPTING THE BASELINE DAMON WITH ANCILLIARY ATTITUDE AND EPHEMERIS SUBSYSTEMS WHICH WE DESIGNED TO HEXAGON SPECIFICATIONS, WILL NOT MEET MC&G ACCURACY REQUIREMENTS AS WELL. HOWEVER, THE CARRYING OUT OF A METRIC EXPERIMENT WITHIN THE DAMON PROGRAM COULD SERVE WELL TO ESTABLISH THE SUITABILITY OF THE SHUTTLE ENVIRONMENT AS A HOST FROM WHICH STABLE METRIC COLLECTION COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED. WITH THIS AS THE BASIC OBJECTIVE, SAFSP AND DMA SHOULD JOINTLY PROCEED TO DEVELOP A MEANINGFUL EXPERIMENT, THE RESULTS OF WHICH COULD IN TURN, SERVE WELL TO DETERMINE THE CONFIGURATION AND OPERATIONAL SCENARIO WHICH A FOLLOW-ON BROAD AREA COLLECTOR SUITABLE FOR MC&G COLLECTION, SHOULD ADHERE TO.
2. FUNDING FOR DMA'S PORTION OF THE METRIC EXPERIMENT IS ESTIMATED AT $2.5 TO $3 MILLION IN FY 80-82 FUNDS, PLUS FURNISHING OF AUXILLIARY HARDWARE SUCH AS A DOPPLER BEACON RECEIVER AND TIMING MODULE. THESE FUNDS ARE NOT CURRENTLY IN DMA'S PROGRAM AND IF REQUIRED, MUST BE IDENTIFIED PRIOR TO THE INITIATION OF THE EXPERIMENTAL EFFORT. IN ADDITION, DMA WILL PROVIDE IN-HOUSE RESOURCES TO DEVELOP AN EXPERI-

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SAFUSS		✓
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S&T	✓	
SAF/SPE		
TC		
REGISTRY		
COMM		
RF		✓

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MENTAL PLAN, IN CONJUNCTION WITH SAFSP, AND FURTHER APPLY THESE RESOURCES TO THE EVALUATION OF THE FINAL OUTPUT DATA. SINCE THE EVALUATION OF THE OUTPUT DATA WILL NOT OCCUR UNTIL MID CY 1982, ALL STUDY EFFORTS CURRENTLY DIRECTED TOWARD THE DEFINITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN MC&G COLLECTION SYSTEM SHOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY. TO ABATE FROM THESE EFFORTS IN ORDER TO AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF THE DAMON EXPERIMENT COULD MEAN A SEVERE SHORTAGE OF BROAD AREA METRIC SOURCE MATERIAL FROM CY 1985 TO CY 1989 AND STILL NOT FIELD A SATISFACTORY DESIGN CONCEPT FOR MC&G. THEREFORE, THE DAMON METRIC EXPERIMENT SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED IN ANY WAY AS A SATISFACTION OF DMA'S SOURCE MATERIAL NEEDS FOR THE POST 85 TIME FRAME.

3. IN LIGHT OF ALL OF THE CONCERNS MENTIONED ABOVE, AND IN KEEPING WITH THE OBJECTIVES IDENTIFIED IN PARA. 1, DMA WILL SUPPORT A METRIC DAMON EXPERIMENT.

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