

(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PLUMMER

SUBJECT: Manpower Savings through Integration of GAMBIT and HEXAGON Support

BACKGROUND

At TAB A is SAFSP's comprehensive response to our request at TAB B for identification of the potential manpower savings obtainable through integration of GAMBIT and HEXAGON support activities.

DISCUSSION

SAFSP has identified the areas in which manpower reductions through integration can be made and a dollar savings for each. In addition, support limitations which would result from such integration have been analyzed. The following is a brief summary of the possible actions, their impact, and SAFSP's recommendation.

- VAFB Booster Support. No further integration identified or recommended.
- b. VAFB LMSC Satellite Vehicle Support. GAMBIT and HEXAGON crews could be combined in last half of FY-77 saving \$13M through FY-80. This would require a 60-day stand-down between SLC-4 (E and/or W) launches. recommends the reduction.
- c. STC Military/Contractor Support (excluding LMSC on-orbit support). GAMBIT and HEXAGON crews could be combined saving 21 military and 21 contractor personnel starting in

GAMBIT HEXAGON

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FY-78 in addition to a currently planned reduction of 8 military and 2 contractor personnel. Savings would be \$3M. The integration of GAMBIT and HEXAGON support would require no on-orbit overlap. SAFSP recommends this course only if a no-overlap restriction is acceptable.

d. LMSC On-Orbit Support at STC. A \$2.6M reduction during FY 76-80 resulting from the program stretch has already been planned. No further integration or cuts are identified or recommended.

e. Program Offices:

- (1) LMSC: A 39% reduction has been identified as the result of the program stretch. A further 6.5% reduction is possible through integration.
- (2) LMSC Vehicle Test: A 44% reduction has been identified as the result of the program stretch. A further 2% is possible through integration.
- (3) SAFSP/Aerospace: A reduction of 14 military and 12 Aerospace personnel has been identified as the result of the program stretch. Integration could provide a further reduction of 1 and 6 personnel, respectively.
- (4) Summary of Program Offices: The Program Office reductions due to integration amount to \$7M and one military slot in FY 78-80. The impacts are:
- (a) Loss of some of the elements of the SPO management approach.
- (b) Different technology and procedures in the program.
 - (c) Small percentage savings.
- (d) Start of the new unknown era of very low launch rates.
- (e) Given large budget cuts and uncertainty about follow-on activity, morale is a factor.

SUMMARY

SAFSP's analysis seems generally sound with one possible .

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exception: in the Program Office cuts planned as the result of the schedule stretch, the ratio of Aerospace Corporation to military personnel is increased. I have made this point to SAFSP and they are reviewing the plan.

SAFSP does not recommend integration of the Program Offices. The reductions due to the schedule stretch alone are significant and their effect should be evaluated before we commit to a major change in the way we do business for comparatively small additional savings.

Two issues immediately arise from the analysis: limiting launch turnaround for any SLC-4 program to 60 days, and requiring no on-orbit overlap plus a 21-day standdown period between GAMBIT and HEXAGON flights.

We will have much better insight into the issues after the eight launches currently scheduled for CY-76 have been accomplished ($1\ \text{K}$, $2\ \text{SDS}$, $2\ \text{G}$, $2\ \text{H}$, and $1\ \text{J}$) and KENNEN's on-orbit performance has been assessed. There is no need to decide on these issues now, nor would it be wise to do so.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Do not integrate the Program Offices now. Reserve judgement on the two issues and the related recommendations until after KENNEN flies.

With your concurrence, I will send the message at right.

HAROLD P. WHEELER, JR. Colonel, USAF Director

Attachments Tab A, CHARGE 8736 Tab B, WHIG 1069

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MATERIA SALA

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SECRET 112250Z NOV 74 CITE CHARGE 8736. PRIORITY WHIG. HANDLE VIA BYEMAN CONTROL SYSTEM SECTION ONE OF TWO GAMBIT/ HEXAGOW KENNEW EARPOP FOR MR. PLUMMER COL WHEELER FM COL PARRISH SUBJECT: POTENTIAL MANPOYER REDUCTIONS 1. AS A RESULT OF THE BRIEFING ON THE POTENTIAL FOR MANPO"ER REDUCTIONS TO MR. PLUMMER ON 5 NOVEMBER 1974, GEN BRADBURY REQUESTED THAT THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY BE FORWARDED FOR YOUR REVIEW. 2. THE MANPOWER LEVELS AT LMSC, VANDENBERG AFB AND THE SATELLITE TEST CENTER HAVE BEEN REVIEWED WITH THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS:

A. MANPOWER PHASEDOWN AS A RESULT OF THE

PAGE 2 CHARGE 8736 3 E C R E T EXCOM DECISION TO REDUCE LAUNCH RATES.

B. VAFB MINIMUM COST LAUNCH CAPABILITY.

C. STC HEXAGON AND GAMBIT OPERATIONAL

OVERLAP CAPABILITY.

D. SAFSPLMSC PROGRAM OFFICE CONSOLIDATION.

3. A. THE MANPOWER LEVELS AT VANDENBERGLAFB?

TO SUPPORT BOOSTER OPERATIONS ARE 50 FOR UTC AND NINE FOR AFROJET. THESE LEVELS WILL REMAIN CONSTANT THROUGH FY 80. THE MARTIN LEVEL IS CURRENTLY 212.

THIS WILL INCREASE TO 236 DURING THE LAST QUARTER OF FY 75 TO SUPPORT THE HEAVY LAUNCH ACTIVITY OF CY 76. DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF FY 77 THE LEVEL WILL DROP TO 212 AND OSCILLATE FROM 212 TO 205 THROUGH FY 80. THESE LEVELS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE THE MINIMUM REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THE CURRENTLY PROJECTED LAUNCH SCHEDULE THROUGH FY 80. THIS ASSUMES THAT ALL PROGRAMS, INC. UDING KENNEM, LAUNCH AS SCHEDULED IN CY 76. BECOMMEND THAT FURTHER CUTS NOT BE MADE.

B. THE LMSC MANPOVER LEVEL AT VARBATO

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PAGE 3 CHARGE 873. SECRET

CURRENTLY 251 WITH SEPARATE G AND HIEAVS. THIS CREW.

ALSO SUPPORTS

AFTER THE PROJECTED CY 76 ACTIVITY IS COMPLETE, THESE CREMS COULD BE REDUCED TO 186 OR 25.8 PERCENT BY COMBINING TO ONE TEAM. THIS WILL SAVE \$13M IN FY 77-80. THE DISADVANTAGES OF COMBINING LMSC LAUNCH CREWS ARE:

- 1. THERE WILL BE NO G OR H OR ANY OTHER SLC 4 PROGRAM SURGE CAPABILITY.
- 2. THERE WILL BE MINIMUM OF TWO MONTHS
 REQUIRED BETWEEN ALL LAUNCHES FROM SLC 4 EAST AND
 WEST THUS LAUNCH SLIPS WOULD CASCADE.
- WEST THUS LAUNCH SLIPS WOULD CASCADE.

 3. THE R-18 BACK-UP CAPABILITY FOR GAMBIT
 WILL BE ELIMINATED.
 ON THIS ISSUE RECOMMENDERHETTHE LAUNCH CREWS BE
 COMBINED. THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IN FY 77 ASSUMING
 THAT THE CURRENT KENNEN LAUNCH SCHEDULE IS MET.
 ANY SIGNIFICANT SLIP WOULD NECESSARILY DELAY THE
 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CREW COMBINATION.
 4. A. THE CURRENT MANPOWER LEVEL AT THE STOP
 IS 224 MILITARY AND CONTRACTOR EXCLUDING LMSC

PAGE 4 CHARGE 8736 S C C R E T ON- ORBIT TECHNICAL ADVISOR SUPPORT. WITH THIS LEVEL, FULL OPERATIONAL OVERLAP OF GAMBIT AND HEXAGON IS POSSIBLE THIS LEVEL WILL REDUCE BY 8 MILITARY AS A RESULT OF STC IN-HOUSE RECREANIZATION WHILE MAIN-TAINING A FULL OVERLAP CAPABILITY. THE PROGRAM STRETCH WILL ALLOW A FURTHER REDUCTION OF TWO CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL. IF A GROUND RULE OF NO OVEPLAP AND A MINIMUM OF 21 DAYS BETWEEN THE DEBOOST OF ONE VEHICLE AND THE LAUNCH OF ANOTHER IS ESTABLISHED THEN AN ADDITIONAL 21 MILITARY AND 21 CONTRACTOR REDUCTION CAN BE MADE BEGINNING IN FY 78 BY COMBINING TEAMS IN ALL AREAS OF SUPPORT. THIS EQUATES TO A \$3M SAVINGS IN FY 78-80 (2.4 OF THIS IS IN THE SCF BUDGET) PLUS 21 MILITARY SLOTS, THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE NO OVERLAP RESTRICTION ARE:

- 1. FORCE SERIAL ON ORBIT OPERATIONS.
- 2. CAUSE LAUNCH SLIPS TO: CASCADE SCHEDULES OR REDUCE THE LIME ON-ORBIT FOR MEXAGON.
- 3. ADD SOME RISK WITH DUAL QUALIFIED TEAMS OPERATING DIFFERENT VEHICLES.

PAGE 5 CHARGE 8736 S E C R E

T

4. PROHIBIT CONTINGENCY EMERGENCY TO PARK ITIES TO REACT QUICKLY TO A CRISIS SITUATION. -CHERLAR RESIRLET-LEVELS VALUE PLANTE: THEN THIS POTER REDUCTION SHOULD BE IN PLEMENTED. MA 5. AS A FALL CUT OF THE PLANNING FOR THE PROGRAM STRETCH. THE LMSC ON-ORBIT TECHNICAL ADVISOR SUPPORT TEAMS WILL BE REORGANIZED AND REDUCED IN SIZE. THE GMMBIT TEAM IS NOT AT 27. THIS WILL REDUCE TO 22 IN TY WHILE SAMBIT IS NOT ON-ORBIT, NINE OF THEESE MEN WALL TOOK IN THE FACTORY SEGINNING IN FY 76. AFTER VEHICLE 4 8, ELEVEN PERSONNEL "ILL WORK IN THE FACTORY WHILE MOT CONDUCTING ON-ORBIT OPERATIONS. THE HEXAGON TEAM IS NOT AT 21. THIS TILL REDUCE TO 17 IN FY 78 AND 14 OF THESE WILL WORK IN THE FACTORY WHILE HEXAGON IS NOT ON- ORBIT. THE NET EFFECT IS THAT IN FY 78 THE TOTAL LMSC SUPPORT TO G AND H OPERATIONS WILL BE REDUCED BY 47.9 PERCENT. THE SAVINGS OVER THE FY 76-80 THY PERIOD IS \$2.6M AND THERE IS NO RESTRICTION ON OPERATIONAL OVERLAP. THIS REORGANIZATION IS PROCEEDING. 6. AS A RESULT OF THE PROGRAM STRETCH, THE

PAGE 6 CHARGE 8736 S E C R E T

LMSC PROGRAM OFFICES MANPOVER FOR G AND H WILL DROP

FROM THE FY 75 LEVEL OF 534 TO 325 IN FY 78. THIS REPRESENT: A 39 PERCENT REDUCTION, BY COMBINING THE LMSC

FOR AN OFFICES, A FURTHER REDUCTION OF 35 IS POSSIBLE
FOR AN OVERALL REDUCTION OF 45.5 PERCENT.

B. THE LMSC VEHICLE TEST OPERATIONS FOR G AND

H ARE CURRENTLY MANNED AT A LEVEL OF 313 (FY 75). THIS

REDUCE TO 175 IN FY 78 DUE TO THE PROGRAM STRETCH.

REDUCE TO 175 IN FY 78 DUE TO THE PROGRAM STRET A 4.5 PERCENT REDUCTION. BY COMBINING VEHICLE TEST MAR OVER IN FY 78 THE LEVEL CAN BE REDUCED BY ONLY THE T. TO 172.

THE T, TO 172.

I G THE SAFSPY AEROSPACE PROGRAM OFFICES
ARE CURRENTLY MANNED AT 64 AND 71 RESPECTIVELY.
THIS WILL REDUCE TO 50 AND 59 IN FY 78 AS A RESULT OF
THE STRETCH, BY COMBINING BOTH AIR FORCE AND AEROSPACE PROGRAM OFFICES THESE FIGURES WILL DECREASE
TO 49 AND 53 RESPECTIVELY.

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GAMBIT MEXAGON/MEINEN/EARPOP

FOR MR. RLUM/ER

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SUBJECT: POTENTIAL MANPOWER REDUCTIONS

D. COMBINING THE LMSC, AF AND
AEROSPACE PROGRAM OFFICES AND THE LMSC VEHICLE
TEST OFERATIONS AFTER GAMBIT VEHICLE 48 FILES AND
HEXAGON HAS BEGUN THE ONE/YEAR LAUNCH RATE WILL.
SAVE APPROXIMATELY SYM (44 CONTRACTORS' MEN) IN
FY 78-80 AND ONE MILITARY SLOT BEGINNING IN FY 78.
THE DISADVANTAGES OF COMBINING PROGRAM OFFICES ARE:

PAGE 2 CHARGE 8786 SECRET

1. SOME OF THE ELEMENTS OF THE SYSTEM PROGRAM OFFICE APPROACH TO MANAGEMENT WOULD BE LOST.

2. TECHNOLOGY AND PROGRAM PROCEDURES

ARE DIFFERENT.

3. FERCENTAGE OF DELTA COSTS BETWEEN COMBINING AND NOT COMBINING IS SMALL AND DOES NOT APPEAR UNTIL FY 78.

4. WE ARE ENTERING AN UNKNOWN ENVIRON-MENT OF LOW LAUNCH RATES FOR PHOTO PROGRAMS.

5. WITH LARGE BLOGET CUTS AND FOLLOW-ON UNDERTAINTY, MORALE IS BOUND TO BE A FACTOR.
FOR THESE REASONS WE RECOMMEND THAT THE LMSC, AF AND AEROSPACE PROGRAM OFFICES NOT BE COMBINED.
7. IN SUMMARY, LMSC, A IR FORCE OR AEROSPACE PROGRAM OFFICES SHOULD NOT BE COMBINED. WE RECOMMEND MAINTAINING THE MINIMUM BOOSTER SUPPORT MANPOYER LEVELS CURRENTLY PROJECTED THROUGH FY 80. WE RECOMMEND REDUCING THE LMSC SUPPORT TO FRE-LAUNCH SATELL ITE VEHICLE ACTIVITY AT VAFB TO A LEVEL OF 186 AFTER THE ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FIRST KENNEN

PAGE 3 CHARGE 8736 SECRET

LAUNCH IS COMPLETED. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE STC

MANPOYER BE REDUCED IF THE NO OVERLAP RESTRICTION

CAN BE ESTABLISHED AS A FIRM CROUND RULE. THE

DOLLAR SAVINGS OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS BY FISCAL

YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:

VAFB LMSC	FY 76	T	77 3•3	78 3.3	79 3.3	8ø 3•3	TOTAL 13.2
COMBINATION LMSC STC REORGANIZATION	•2	•1	•2	•7	•7	•7	2.6
STC MANPOYER REDUCTIONS WITH				1. 2	1. 1	1.0	3.1
NO OVERLAP MILITARY 9 OTS TOTAL (MILLIONS) E-2 IMPDET	•			21	21	21	18.9
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SUBJECT: MANPOWER SAVINGS THROUGH	H SUPPORT INTEGRATION	SS-2 AL	MIN X
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1. WE APPRECIATE THE THOROUGH ANA	ALYSIS SUMMARIZED	SS-6	
IN CHARGE 8736 AND IN THE TWO RELA	ATED BRIEFINGS IN	SS-7	X
SUNNYVALE AND WASHINGTON. THE AD.	JUSTMENTS MADE IN	SS-8 COMP	X
RESPONSE TO THE STRETCHED SCHEDULI	E ARE AGREEABLE WITH	COMM	A
THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF THE AERO	OSPACE/MILITARY RATIO	RD-2 RF	
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WHICH WE DISCUSSED WITH COL NEUNER	R ON 22 NOVEMBER.	FILE	7
ADDITIONALLY, IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW	THE PLANNED		·
REDUCTIONS, OUTLINED IN YOUR MESSA	AGE AND IN COL	DATE	TIME
NEUNER'S BRIEFING, CORRELATE TO THE SP BUDGET		DEC	74
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COL HAROLD P. WHEELER, JR.			
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ACTION ROUTINE	COL WHEELER			

SUBMITTED 10 OCT 74. PLEASE CLARIFY WHETHER THE
ANTICIPATED SAVINGS ARE REFLECTED IN YOUR BUDGET AND
IF NOT WHEN DO YOU ANTICIPATE BEING ABLE TO REFINE YOUR
ESTIMATES TO TAKE THE PROJECTED REDUCTIONS INTO
CONSIDERATION. WE SHOULD NOT, AT THIS TIME, PLAN TO
INTEGRATE THE AIR FORCE, AEROSPACE, AND LMSC PROGRAM
OFFICE.

- 2. WITH REGARD TO THE ADDITIONAL MANPOWER REDUCTIONS WHICH REDUCE SUPPORT CAPABILITY AT VANDENBERG AND SUNNYVALE, WE SHOULD RECONSIDER THESE RECOMMENDATIONS AFTER THE RESULTS OF THE LAUNCHES IN CY 76 HAVE BEEN ASSESSED AND ACTUAL MANPOWER REDUCTIONS REALIZED FROM THE STRETCHED SCHEDULE HAVE BEEN EVALUATED.
- 3. WE ENCOURAGE A CONTINUAL REVIEW OF THE MANPOWER SITUATION, NOT ONLY FOR POTENTIAL SAVINGS, BUT ALSO TO INSURE THAT YOUR ORIGINAL ESTIMATES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRESENTLY PLANNED MANPOWER REDUCTIONS CAUSE NO UNDUE OR IRREVERSIBLE RISK TO THE SUCCESS OF NRP MISSION.

SOCOMM FORM 173-1