

~~SECRET~~

## TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

I. - ASN (R and D) Memo of 8 Jan 1966 on subject "Navy Laboratories".

A. Reference is made to DDRE memo of 17 November 1965 to Service Assistant Secretaries for R and D which raised a number of (unspecified) questions concerning Service laboratories. \* There is at least the presumption that the DDRE memo alluded the matter of budget, scientific and technological responsibilities of the labs, and the question of management (e.g. consolidation or unification).

B. Either in anticipation of OSD pressures, or for independent reasons, the Navy has seen fit to re-examine the roles, relationship, and management of Navy labs. Hence the appointment of a Director of Navy Laboratories and his tasks (see next-to-last paragraph of Morse forwarding memo.).

C. In keeping with certain goals defined by ASN (R and D) on 1 Jan 1965<sup>+</sup> and aimed at making better use of the technical resources of the Navy, "there have been efforts to increase the delegation of authority and responsibility to the laboratories, to give them more voice in planning and systems decisions, and to increase their involvement in systems, from conception to experiment, development and follow-through." (Pp. A-1, 2)

D. Purpose of present report is to "indicate the general directives in which we intend to go and . . . . certain specific actions which will be taken." Longer range adjustments and planning will be a task of the now DNL. (Pp. A-3)

\* According to "Introduction" of reference DDRE "asked each of the Services to evaluate its research and development requirements in the light of what resources would be needed to attack the most pressing military R and D problems facing the service in the next few years. This preliminary report is addressed to such an evaluation along the lines suggested in the memorandum, i.e., the designation of major laboratory establishments to be associated with at least some of the military problem areas."

+ ASN(R and D) Memo to SecNav on "Management of Navy Laboratories".

I-1

HANDLE VIA  
BYEMAN  
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

E. General role of "major systems laboratories", in terms of functions prescribed by RDT E process. (Pp. A-4,5)

F. Added requirement of their roles: in order to be leaders in devising new Navy systems, such laboratories must have "well-defined and militarily significant missions, i.e., the Laboratory, if it is to have a technically stimulating incentive, should address itself directly to reasonably complete operational or warfare problems which the Navy as a whole faces." (Pp. A-6)

G. Lengthy analysis of alternate means of organizing complex Naval R and D problems for optimum laboratory contributions.\* (This analysis supports the above concept of laboratory role. See pp. A-7-19) Very useful for technical assessment purposes.

H. Conclusions, derived from foregoing analysis, point to possible desirability of giving "certain key laboratories prime R and D systems analysis responsibilities for important warfare areas". (Pp. A-21,22)

I. Brief descriptions of "lead laboratories".<sup>+</sup> (Pp. A-22-25)

J. Preliminary attempt to assign problem areas to "Systems Development Centers" based upon criteria evolved in above analysis; some implications (Pp. A26-36)

\* Countermeasures and Counter-countermeasures" is included as one of the Navy R and D problem areas, but unlike the others, is not described (p.14 also p. 18)

+ NRL described as "Navy's Corporate Research Laboratory". (P.A-22)

~~SECRET~~

I-2

HANDLE VIA  
BYEMAN  
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY