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MAR 11 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, PROGRAM C

SUBJECT: F.Y. 1969 Financial Program Recommendations



Guidance for the formulation of FY 1969 financial program recommendations for the NRL portion of the POPPY program is contained in the attachment. Submission of your estimates thru General Martin is requested, in order that his POPPY costs may be compatible. However, the detailed review of your recommendations will be accomplished in my office, as in the past.

Guidance for the FY 1970 budget estimate will be issued by not later than July 15, 1968.

Signed

ALEXANDER H. FLAX
Director

Attachment

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SIGNED By: 12728-68

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The POPPY launches of Program C have been scheduled for one year intervals in the past, and as four-ball payloads for missions 7104, 7105, 7106, 7107. Prior to the urgent requirement for additional coverage of [] emitters, it was decided to reduce the number of POPPY vehicles from four to two per launch beginning with Mission 7106. Subsequent to the [] capabilities reviews in late 1966, it was decided to continue with four-ball launches to obtain increased probability of intercept.

Inasmuch as there has been (1) considerable pressure to reduce expenditures; (2) an excellent record of life and achievement for the recent POPPY vehicles and payloads; (3) a lengthened span between launches; (4) a growth in both weight and complexity of the payloads and vehicles; (5) a need for separate evolutionary growth through separate experimental vehicles; and (6) a need for additional rides for P-11 vehicles, F.Y. 1969 cost estimates for the NRL portion of the POPPY program are to be submitted to Director A (General Martin) by April 15, 1968, for incorporation into his POPPY submission. These estimates are to cover four options:

Option 1 - Next launch (7106) to be November 1968. Subsequent launches at 12 month intervals, four balls per launch, using Thorad/Agena. Carry two P-11 vehicles each launch, one mounted in the front end and one mounted on the aft rack.

Option 2 - Next launch (7106) to be November 1968. Subsequent launches at 16 month intervals, four balls per launch using Thorad/Agena. Carry two P-11 vehicles each launch.

Option 3 - Next launch (7106) to be November 1968. Subsequent launches at 16 month intervals, two balls per launch, using Thorad/Agena. Carry two P-11 vehicles each launch. Submit justification if the excess payload capacity is considered for experimental packages separate from the primary mission vehicles as companions to the launch.

Option 4 - Next launch (7106) to be November 1968. Subsequent launches at 16 month intervals, two balls per launch, using Thor/Agena. Carry one P-11 vehicle each launch on the aft rack.

Consideration should also be given to the inclusion of experiments, either in the laboratory or in orbit as appropriate, to provide an auxiliary capability to collect and discern radars of the [] Costs are to be separately identified from the preceding four options.

In the event you recommend expansion or change in field site collection facilities, justification will be required.

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The review of your FY 1969 recommendations will be the same as in the past -- a discussion between your personnel and the NRO Comptroller and SAFSS in May, and DNRO review in June.

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