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~~SI~~ NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

PROB20

THE NRO STAFF

May 23, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. FLAX

SUBJECT: Acceleration of ABM P-11 Spacecraft

The message at TAB A (CHARGE 1750) from General Martin, subject as above, describes the possible delivery dates for P-11 spacecraft on an accelerated basis, and the possible J-1 and J-3 CORONA payload swapping which could be accomplished to achieve earlier rides for the ABM P-11 spacecraft. Costs associated with acceleration are estimated to be not in excess of one million dollars.

The spacecraft listed are identifiable as follows:

Flt. Test Vehicle	Payload	Type	Location	Freq. Range
4417	LAMPAN II/ SAMPAN III	GS	pencil beam	1 to 2 GHz, 2 to 4 GHz
4418	TIVOLI	TI	none (omni)	100 to 4000 MHz
4419	VAMPAN II	GS	interferometer omni	100 to 1000 MHz

I have included as an aid at TAB B a graphic representation of the ABM related launches currently on orbit and scheduled and their frequency coverage ranges. These have been plotted against the calendar so that the anticipated coverage can be viewed as a product of time and bandwidth. You will note that with the exception of the on-orbit and proposed POPPY spacecraft (Blue-green) and the MULTIGROUP III (yellow), the design lifetimes are depicted -- six months for

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each STRAWMAN and nine months for each P-11. The lifetimes for the POPPY's and the MULTIGROUP III are indefinitely long. Each color block is identified at the left edge. This chart indicates that with the presently programmed systems there is a rather complete coverage of the frequency bands of prime ABM interest through at least 1970. Also, the chart represents only low altitude capabilities and does not depict either the probabilistic nature of the intercepts or the differences in payload capabilities.

Please note also that the two P-11's presently undefined are indicated in CY-69. A memorandum to you addressing the subject of these P-11's and recommending that further guidance be obtained from USIB as to the priority of requirements which these payloads could fill has been submitted to you separately.

W. R. Boenning

William R. Boenning

Attachments

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S E C R E T 212323Z MAY 68 CITE CHARGE 1750
WHIG
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FOR DR. FLAX FROM MAJOR GENERAL MARTIN
SUBJECT: ACCELERATION OF ABM P-11 SPACECRAFT
1. DURING OUR BRIEFING TO YOU ON P-989, 6 MAY 1968, YOU ASKED WHAT COULD BE DONE TO ACCELERATE THE LAUNCH OF THE DUPLICATE ABM P-11 SPACECRAFT 4417, 4418, AND 4419.
2. THE FOLLOWING CHART SHOWS WHAT CAN BE DONE ASSUMING THAT ACCELERATION WAS ORDERED FOR ANY ONE SPACECRAFT. IF ACCELERATION WERE TO BE DIRECTED IN THE MONTH SHOWN ACROSS THE TOP ROW, THE CORRESPONDING DATE FOR DELIVERY IN A FLIGHT-READY STATE WOULD BE THAT SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING ROWS FOR EACH VEHICLE.

	1968						1969					
	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
4417	OCT 68	NOV 68	NOV 68	DEC 68	DEC 68	DEC 68	JAN 69	X					
4418	DEC 68	JAN 69	FEB 69	MAR 69	MAR 69	MAR 69	MAR 69	MAR 69	MAR 69	APR 69	X		
4419	DEC 68	JAN 69	FEB 69	MAR 69	MAR 69	APR 69	APR 69	APR 69	MAY 69	MAY 69	MAY 69	MAY 69	X

PAGE 2 CHARGE 1750 S E C R E T
THE X INDICATES CURRENT CONTRACTUAL DELIVERY DATE.
IF DIRECTION WERE GIVEN 1 JUN 68 TO ACCELERATE ALL THREE SPACECRAFT AT ONCE, DELIVERIES COULD BE MADE OF 4417, OCT 68; 4418, JAN 69; AND 4419, FEB 69.
3. ALTHOUGH NO NEW SOURCE OF RIDES CAN BE OBTAINED IN THIS TIME PERIOD, RESHUFFLING OF THE "LIGHT" AND "HEAVY" PAYLOADS OF P-846 COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED SO AS TO PROVIDE RIDES EARLIER THAN NOW

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SCHEDULED. RESPONSE TIME TO SWAP "LIGHT" AND "HEAVY" PAYLOADS IS MUCH LESS THAN THE NOMINAL SIX WEEK SPACING BETWEEN P-846 LAUNCHES.
4. COST ESTIMATES FOR ACCELERATING THE P-989 ABM DUPLICATE SPACECRAFT VARY DEPENDING ON THE OPTION SELECTED, BUT EVEN THE ACCELERATION OF ALL THREE SPACECRAFT WOULD NOT EXCEED ONE MILLION DOLLARS.
5. 4413, VAMPAN, THE LAST OF THE FIRST GENERATION ABM SERIES, COULD BE ACCELERATED AT NO COST AND LAUNCHED 18 SEPTEMBER 1968 RATHER THAN, 30 OCTOBER 1968, PROVIDED A DECISION WERE MADE TO FLY A "LIGHT" P-846 PAYLOAD IN SEPTEMBER.
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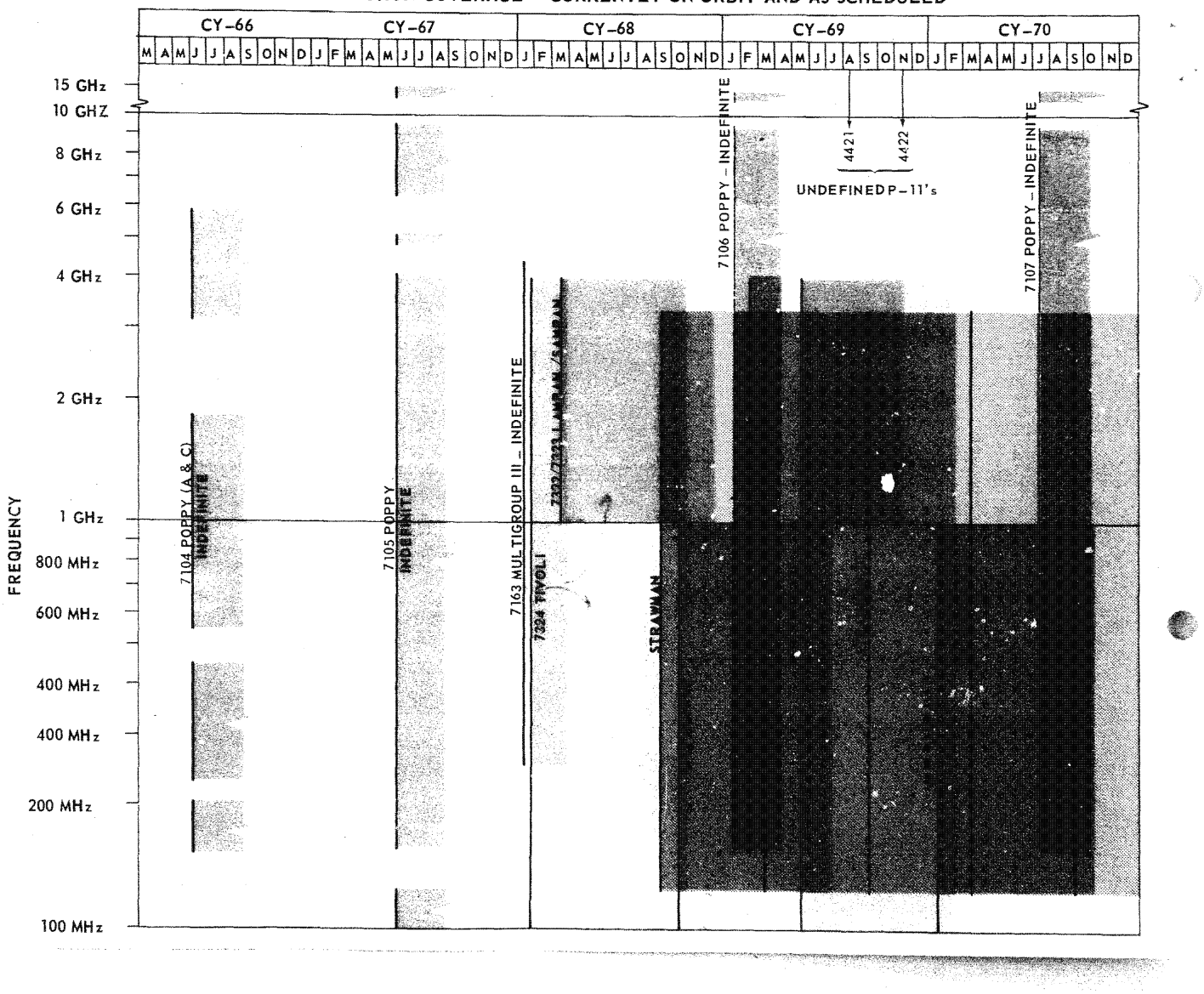
ABM MISSION COVERAGE – CURRENTLY ON ORBIT AND AS SCHEDULED



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