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Date: subsequent to
13 Jul 56

MEMORANDUM TO: Colonel Ritland

SUBJECT: Progress Report on WS 117L

Activation of the WS 117L development plan is still awaiting USAF approval and allocation of funds. On 22 May the ARDC approved the selection of Lockheed as prime systems contractor and authorized expenditure of any remaining Project 1115 funds to continue studies and maintain continuity at Lockheed. A total of \$389,245 has been collected in Project 1115 Fy 56 funds and allocated to support continued studies at Lockheed. A GCM was issued to Lockheed on 12 June calling for the following additional studies:

- a. A revised development program consistent with the USAF Development Plan.
- b. Establishment of launching site criteria
- c. Determine most suitable guidance system.
- d. Preliminary detailed designs for Pioneer Reconnaissance vehicle.

Work by MIT on ascent guidance and orbital stabilization has been continued in an amount of approximately \$30,000 primarily to keep the team together pending selection of a contractor by Lockheed for guidance work.

A WDD team briefed the Antarctic Committee of the ODM, on 12 July 1956 and the President's Scientific Advisory Committee on 13 July 1956.

Hq, USAF has released \$3,000,000 of Fy 57 R & D funds to HQ ARDC for WS 117L. A request is being prepared by HQ USAF to the OSD for the remainder of the Fy 57 money called for in the Development Plan.

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
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No Fy 57 funds have, however, been received at WDD. Processing of the Development Plan by the Air Staff is approximately 50% complete.

Work has continued at the Centers and at WDD on the preparation of subsystem development plans and the formulation of work statements in preparation for contractual negotiations.

SIGNED

R. C. TRUAX
Commander, USN
Assistant Deputy for WS 117L
Technical Operations

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