

~~SECRET~~

*Ed. Kendall's N.B.*  
Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JUL 8 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Manned Orbiting Laboratory Monthly Status  
Report

The attached Status Report on the Manned Orbiting  
Laboratory (MOL) Program covers activities through  
June 30, 1966, and is submitted in accordance with the  
June 20, 1966 instructions from the Office of the Secretary.

SIGNED *by Gen Evans*

*for*

B. A. SCHRIEVER  
General, USAF  
Director, MOL Program

1 Atch  
a/s

DORIAN

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC REGRADING;  
DOD DIR. 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

~~SECRET~~

Page *4* of *4* pages  
Copy *4* of *4* copies  
SAFSL Control *BYE 2101-66*

~~SECRET~~

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

I. PROBLEMS

Program Funding

By memorandum dated June 22, 1966, SAF-SL forwarded for review and approval a document entitled "MOL Program Plan and Funding Requirements." This paper provides a comprehensive and detailed rationale for program schedules and costs, identifies a total program funds requirement of approximately \$1.75 billion, and defines a need for \$253.9 million in new obligating authority for FY 1967.

At this time, it appears unlikely that the \$253.9 million identified as the MOL FY 1967 requirement will be made available to MOL. OSD has apportioned approximately \$178.4 million for MOL in FY 1967. Anticipated Congressional action to provide additional MOL funds has not materialized. SAF-SL has therefore initiated tentative planning to accommodate reduced FY 1967 funding.

Specifically, General Berg has been directed to study the following alternatives in addition to the baseline program submitted to SAF on June 22:

A. Retain the baseline flight schedule, but defer all possible FY 1967 funds requirements to FY 1968. Explore possible deviations from standard government procurement practices to accomplish this end.

B. Assume FY 1967 new obligating authority is \$178.4 million, and develop a revised program which retains the current program philosophy, but adjusts the launch schedule as necessary.

C. Assume FY 1967 new obligating authority is approximately \$210 million, and define required adjustments to the present schedule to provide for minimum slippage of the first optics flight now scheduled for December 1969.

D. Propose other options as appropriate.

The results of this study are due in SAF-SL not later than July 8, 1966, to provide for submission of program alternatives to DDR&E by July 15, 1966.

DORIAN

Page 1 of 5 pages  
Copy 9 of 11 copies  
SAFSL Control By 62272-66

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

## II. CHANGE PAST MONTH

### A. Unmanned DORIAN System Studies

The Unmanned DORIAN System Studies are complete and were transmitted to Director NRO Staff, and Director, MOL. These studies, with the Diamond Study conducted by the NRO staff, form the basis of a report prepared for submittal to OSD. The report is being reviewed by the Director, NRO.

### B. MOL Subcontractor Selection

The Douglas Aircraft Company has selected the International Business Machines Company as the subcontractor to provide the MOL Data Computation Subsystem. By message dated June 24, 1966, the Director, MOL concurred in this selection.

### C. MOL Abort Recovery Aircraft Staging Base

The U.K. has granted approval for a survey party to visit Henderson Island to evaluate the suitability of the Island as a staging base to support abort recovery operations. The survey party will depart from Hawaii on July 9 on board the range instrumentation ship SUNNYVALE.

### D. PSAC Briefing

A special panel of the President's Science Advisory Committee was briefed on June 30, 1966 by Major General Evans, Colonel Norman, and Dr. Yarymovych. The briefing was informative in nature, at the DORIAN level to selected members of the Panel, and at Secret level to additional members.

### E. Introduction of MOL Astronauts

The public announcement of the selection of five new MOL Aerospace Research Pilots was made in accordance with OASD/PA direction at a press conference, June 17, at Headquarters, SSD. Ten newsmen attended, including photographers. There was no national news coverage, and exposure in the local Los Angeles area was light -- probably because none of the new pilots

DORIAN

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

~~SECRET~~

Page 2 of 5 pages  
Copy 2 of 11 copies  
SAFSL Control 8/12/22-66

~~SECRET~~

Handle via ~~BYEMAN~~  
Control System

is a native of California. It appears that the objective of a low key introduction was accomplished with the story receiving only hometown news treatment.

F. MOL Funds Status

Obligation authority issued during June 1966 to Generals Berg and Martin totalled \$6.315 million. Funds released by the MOL Program Office since program approval in August 1965 now total approximately \$97.1 million. On June 24, 1966, DDR&E released to the Air Force the remaining \$60.0 million of deferred FY 1966 MOL funds, to bring the total approved FY 1966 program to \$150.0 million.

G. Army Participation in MOL

The Assistant Secretary of the Army (R&D) has requested the participation of one or more Army officers in the MOL Program. A letter to Secretary Hawkins has been prepared for Secretary Flax's signature which agrees to this participation, and suggests direct contact with the MOL Program Office to work out details.

H. MOL Ocean Surveillance Mission

Briefings within the Navy on the conceptual design of the proposed Ocean Surveillance Mission for MOL are scheduled to be completed on July 6. The concept will be reviewed by the Deputy Director, MOL on July 11. The MOL Policy Committee is scheduled to review the concept on July 13 before it goes to DDR&E about July 21.

I. Congressional Activity

The House Armed Services Committee (Rivers) reported an additional FY 1967 authorization of \$80 million requested for MOL; however, the Senate ASC (Russell) did not include the \$80 million in its report. As a result, a House/Senate Conference met to resolve this and other differences in authorization. The conference agreed on \$50 million in Bill S 2950. At the same time, the House Appropriations Committee (Mahon) reported Bill HR 15941 without the additional \$50 million for MOL. The Senate Appropriations Committee (Hayden, Russell) has the next action, and they are expected to begin work on their bill after the Senate reconvenes on July 7.

DORIAN Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

~~SECRET~~

Page 3 of 5 pages  
Copy 7 of 11 copies  
SAFSL Control BYE 2/172-66

~~SECRET~~

Handle via **BYEMAN**  
Control System

J. Electromagnetic Pointing System Studies

Configuration studies for the (ELINT) Electromagnetic Pointing System have been completed by Airborne Instruments Laboratory and TRW-Systems. Final report briefings were presented on June 29. These 90 day studies defined an ELINT system which could be installed with the primary optical sensor to obtain data from electronic emitters to increase optical system effectiveness. [REDACTED] and to provide a capability to collect technical intelligence on high priority emitters.

III. CURRENT STATUS

A. MOL Instrumentation Ship

In recent correspondence with NASA, General Davis, National Range Division Commander, has restated the MOL Program position that T-2 type ship support is required for the first four MOL flights. General Davis has requested from Dr. Mueller a current reassessment of MOL/Apollo ship scheduling conflicts in light of the MOL schedule changes adopted in May.

B. NASA Personnel Assignments to MOL

In an exchange of letters in April and May 1966, General Schriever and Dr. Seamans agreed to the detail of NASA personnel for duty with the MOL Systems Office. In order to identify proper individuals for the specific jobs in the Systems Office, NASA requested brief position descriptions and other supporting data. This information has been provided to the Civilian Personnel offices of both AFSC and NASA.

C. Titan III M/MOL Support of NASA AAP

A June 17, 1966 letter from NASA to DOD requested response to a set of 14 questions related to determining the feasibility of supporting the NASA Apollo Applications Program through use of Titan III M and Gemini B/MOL hardware. The response to these questions will be used by NASA in preparing their submission to the Bureau of the Budget. The MOL Systems Office was requested by letter of June 23, to provide a written

DORIAN  
Handle via **BYEMAN**  
Control System

~~SECRET~~

Page 4 of 5 pages  
Copy 7 of 11 copies  
SAFSL Control B/E 21122-66

~~SECRET~~

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

report that embodies answers to the NASA questions. The report is due to SAF-SL by July 11.

D. Heat Shield Qualification (HSQ) Launch

The MOL HSQ spacecraft was accepted at the McDonnell plant on June 27, 1966. Review of the systems test results were conducted by NASA personnel in accordance with established Gemini Program procedures, and the spacecraft was accepted for the Air Force. The spacecraft will be held for shipment to Cape Kennedy at the end of July. Pre-flight checks will begin at that time before installation on a Titan III C with simulated laboratory. Scheduled launch date is October 27, 1966.

IV. FORECAST FOR FUTURE

A. A comprehensive program briefing for Secretary McNamara is scheduled for the afternoon of July 7th at SSD.

B. The next MOL Monthly Management Review will be held in Los Angeles on July 12, 1966. Agenda items include:

1. Overall Program Status.
2. Flight Objectives & Readiness Status of HSQ.
3. Status of Preparations for Contract Negotiations, with Emphasis on Incentive Arrangements.
4. Review of Flight Test Objectives for Flights 1, 2, 3, and 5.

C. Meeting 66-4 of the MOL Policy Committee is scheduled for 9:30 AM, July 13. Subject for review is the Ocean Surveillance System.

V. DUE DATE FOR NEXT PROGRESS REPORT

Next monthly MOL Program Progress Report to be submitted August 5, 1966.

Handle via BYEMAN  
Control System

DORIAN

~~SECRET~~

Page 5 of 22 pages  
Copy 9 of 11 copies  
SAFSL Control BJE 21/72-66