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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



12 MAR 1968

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFNINC

SUBJECT: Special Materials Support Requirements for MOL

TO: SAF-SL (Major General James T. Stewart)

1. The 27 February briefing by ACIC on target location uncertainties, together with the briefing that same date by the MOL SPO, identified problems connected with the positioning of targets, and, jointly, recommended a special Master Photo Chip (MPC) as the appropriate solution to those problems.

2. It is understood that the MPC concept is approved by the MOL Project Office. Consequently, since the production of the MPCs is a long lead-time undertaking (approximately 28 months), it is recommended that the actions listed below be formalized in the immediate future:

a. The MPC be designated the instrument for

- (1) defining targets for the MOL
- (2) determining the WGS coordinates of aiming points, and
- (3) preparation and production of
 - (a) simulation materials
 - (b) target study and training materials, and
 - (c) on-orbit cueing target materials.

b. The SPO be directed to fund for and procure certain program-peculiar special equipment and the software associated with that equipment. This equipment has been estimated to consist of

- (1) a master photo chip printer,
- (2) a master photo chip file and retrieval system,
- (3) a cue strip printer, and
- (4) cue cassette loading equipment.

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c. AFNIN be requested to proceed with those actions necessary to initiate the production of MPCs, and to minimize the impact of the MPC upon the National Data Base (NIETB). These actions are

(1) secure an appropriate Air Force priority for ACIC's participation in the program. (This has been given the nickname SENTINEL COPE.)

(2) support and staff ACIC's request to AFOMO for the additional manpower authorizations required.

(3) Communicate the essence of the MPC production program to the Defense Intelligence Agency.

(4) direct ACIC to

(a) initiate the recruiting and training of personnel necessary for the production of the MPCs, and

(b) continue to provide direct support to the SPO in the development of the special equipments and associated software, and related activities.

(5) explore, through DIA-COMIREX channels, the possibility of the MPC being adopted as an integral part of, or a useful adjunct to the National Data Base. This exploration will be confined to the MPC as it now exists. Past experiences indicate that efforts might be made to modify its format, in order to make it more useful to the exploitation community. Since the MPC has been designed specifically to meet MOL operational requirements, modifications might lessen its usefulness for its primary purpose.

d. The MOL Project Office designate a point of contact with whom all AFNIN actions in support of the MOL will be coordinated.

3. Immediately upon completion of the actions recommended in paragraph 2a above, AFNIN will act to initiate the production of the MPCs. If difficulties are encountered, MOL Office assistance in overcoming them will be sought.

Jack E Thomas

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