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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

55-5^{Star}
RAR-B-8

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 29, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. McLUCAS

SUBJECT: Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) Program

Purpose:

The MOL Systems Office in Los Angeles is to be closed out on September 30, 1970. General Ferguson's memorandum (TAB A) recommends that the residual MOL contractual matters and about four of the MOL people be assigned to the Directorate of Procurement and Production at SAMSO to handle MOL contractual matters after that date. This memorandum endorses the proposed action and recommends for your signature the memorandum included by General Ferguson (TAB B).

Background:

The MOL management organization consisted of a Program Office in the Pentagon and a Systems Office in Los Angeles. This management scheme was maintained after the MOL program termination until February 15, 1970 when the Pentagon office was inactivated. At that time, residual MOL contractual matters were assigned to Air Force Systems Command DCS Procurement and Production and all other MOL matters were to be referred to SAFSS for disposition. On September 30, 1970 the MOL Systems Office is scheduled to be closed. The MOL Systems Office currently consists of six people (all were originally in the MOL Systems Office Procurement Directorate) who have taken direction in contractual matters from Gen Higgins as DCS P&P at AFSC. Provision must be made for continuing MOL contractual matters after September 30 since it is estimated that at least another year will be required before all contracts are closed out.

General Ferguson's memorandum recommends that this can be best accomplished by assigning about four of the MOL people as an entity to the Directorate of Procurement and Production at SAMSO. There they can perform other duties as the MOL program continues to phase down, yet their MOL experience will be available as needed to complete the MOL closeout. Inherent in this course of action is the assignment of residual MOL contractual matters to the Directorate of Procurement and Production at SAMSO along with the people.

Also, as background information, you should be aware that SAMSO was in the midst of a reduction in force (RIF) on April 2, 1970 when your memorandum extended the MOL Systems Office until September 30, 1970. Based on regulatory authority, Civilian Personnel used the memorandum to exclude MOL

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civilian personnel from the RIF. The local union has questioned the action and will be watching future actions closely to assure MOL people are not given preferential treatment. It is understood that Mr. Griner (AFGE) has been informed of this matter. The action proposed is considered entirely proper and in fact will make the MOL people subject to any future RIF actions at SAMSO.

Alternatives:

There is no other option available that would not cause a major disruption in what has been a successful operation to date.

Recommendation:

The memorandum proposed by General Ferguson be signed.



NORBERT J. WALECKA
Lt Colonel USAF

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