



ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Document No. [redacted]

JUL 31 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, DEPARTMENT
OF THE ARMY

SUBJECT: Technical Support for Project ARGON

Reference is made to the recent decision of the Director for Defense Research and Engineering which established Project ARGON as an approved program, and which assigned to the Advanced Research Projects Agency responsibilities for its technical management.

In order to provide technical supervision for the ARGON Project, Department of the Army assistance is necessary. In view of the unique and varied experience in the fields of geodesy and mapping, and the excellent technical counsel provided in support of Project ARGON by representatives of the Army Map Service, it is the desire of the Advanced Research Projects Agency to assign to the Army Map Service, Corps of Engineers, responsibility for contributing certain technical efforts and consultation in support of the ARGON Project. Due to the urgency, security, and magnitude of this program, a single channel to ARPA for such technical contributions is most desirable. Accordingly, if other technical staffs exist elsewhere within the Department of the Army, competent and available to assist in this program, it is requested that they be organizationally integrated into the scientific staff of the Army Map Service.

Work to be performed by the Army Map Service initially will include studies to determine:

1. Adequacy of the design configuration and component specifications for the ARGON payload;
2. Adequacy of the photographic instrumentation within the payload to meet the geodetic objectives of the project;
3. Adequacy of proposed subsystems for reducing photographic material to geodetic significance.

Additional assignments within these and related areas will be specified from time to time in further memorandums issued by this Agency.

In Accordance with L.O. 10000
NOV 26 1997

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY
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Funds in the amount of [REDACTED] are herewith made available for the salaries of scientists and engineers, and for other appropriate costs, of the Army Map Service in support of the project. All actions required to establish and/or augment the scientific team within the Army Map Service, and to arrange for secure physical work space for this staff, are requested to be expedited.

Due to security considerations, funding of this effort is being handled through Central Intelligence Agency channels. ARPA instructions to CIA for disbursement of ARGON funds dated 31 July 1959 include [REDACTED] for the Army Map Service Technical Guidance Staff. Arrangements for the reimbursement of AMS should be made through the appropriate CIA staff.

John E. Clark
John E. Clark
Rear Adm., USN
Acting Director

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