

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

5 January 1968

MEMO FOR Col. Worthman

Attached is a copy of the DOD/NASA Memorandum of Understanding concerning the Manned Space Flight Programs of the Two Agencies which was signed by Mr. McNamara and Mr. Webb.



John Kirk
Assistant Director
(Space Technology)
ODDR&E

Attachment

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
AND THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
CONCERNING
THE MANNED SPACE FLIGHT PROGRAMS OF THE TWO AGENCIES

1. Purpose

The purpose of this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is to establish an expeditious means of coordinating the manned space flight programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Department of Defense (DOD). It supersedes the agreement of January 21, 1963, entitled "Agreement between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense concerning the Gemini Program," which is hereby canceled.

2. Constitution of Committee

It is agreed that a NASA-DOD committee, to be known as the Manned Space Flight Policy Committee, will meet at fairly regular intervals to consider matters described below in this MEMORANDUM. The Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of NASA shall each designate a co-chairman; two additional members from each agency shall be jointly appointed by the co-chairmen.

3. Functions of the Committee

Acting in accordance with the policy guidance of the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of the NASA regarding the conduct of the programs of their respective Agencies, the functions of the Committee will be:

a. To resolve those matters concerning the mutual participation in and support of the manned space flight programs of the two Agencies which cannot be resolved at a lower level.

b. To arrive at agreements involving top policy determinations.

c. To facilitate the exchange, at top management level, of viewpoints and information of importance in the coordinated planning of the manned space flight programs of the NASA and the DOD.

4. Management Responsibilities

Nothing in this MEMORANDUM shall be construed as affecting the established management responsibilities of either Agency.

5. Procedures

Meetings will be informal, but with the advanced preparation of a simple agenda. A brief memorandum will be written following each meeting for the purpose of serving as a record of decisions and agreed upon future action items.

The co-chairmen shall jointly appoint two Executive Coordinators, one from each agency, to provide staff support to the Committee and handle day-to-day committee business.

The co-chairmen will establish such coordination and review groups as are required to carry out the function of the Manned Space Flight Policy Committee.

Robert S. McNamara

Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense

Date:

3 JAN 1968

James E. Webb

James E. Webb
Administrator, NASA

Date:

12-20-67

MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND THE ADMINISTRATOR OF NASA

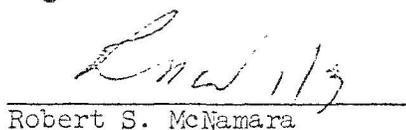
SUBJECT: Manned Space Flight Policy Committee

In the light of the evolving relationship between the DOD and the NASA and the increased volume of manned space flight coordination required as each agency adjusts to programmatic changes, we have agreed that the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Manned Space Flight Policy Committee should be revised and updated.

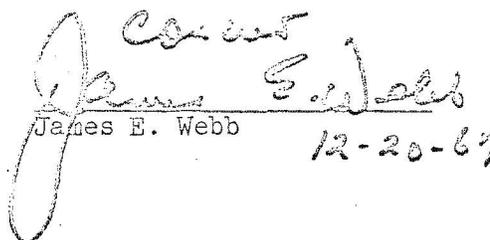
A proposed revision is submitted for your approval. The key differences from the original are:

- a. The Co-Chairmen are no longer designated by organizational title to permit greater management flexibility.
- b. The other members are no longer specifically appointed by you but would be jointly appointed by the Co-Chairmen.
- c. Committee procedures have been improved by the addition of needed staff support and the authority to establish necessary subordinate review or coordination groups.


John S. Foster


Robert S. McNamara


Robert C. Seamans, Jr.


James E. Webb
12-20-69