ATTN OF: SCG

18 March 1965

SUBJECT: Tagboard Program Test Support

TO: The Honorable Brockway McMillan
Under Secretary of the Air Force
Washington, D.C.

1. The "Tagboard" program has now progressed in development to the launch and recovery phases of test. In response to verbal requests for assistance, Systems Command resources and support have been allocated to this effort by both the Space Systems Division and the Western Test Range. I am confident that the test support requirements, as we understand them, can be met.

2. The Pacific Missile Range, as lead range for the Launch and Recovery phase of Tagboard, has published a test Operations Directive encompassing tasks assigned to the Systems Command. To assure a complete understanding of these assigned tasks, test support plans have been prepared by SSD and AFWTR. I have reviewed these test support plans and consider them adequate. Copies of these plans are attached for your review.

3. The need for streamlined management procedures and security controls are recognized, but several aspects of the program management are of concern to me:

   a. Planning on our part is restricted to quick reaction without regard to impact on other lesser priority assigned tasks.

   b. Advance planning is precluded by a limited knowledge of future program requirements and the lack of any specific directive that permits assessment of the future impact on command resources.

   c. Program support priority is not clearly defined and priority guidance is necessary to resolve some potential scheduling conflicts as described in the attached test support plans.

   d. No program designator has been assigned for command support budgetary and accounting actions.

   e. No information has been provided from which a FY66 support fund forecast can be made.
4. I am convinced that appropriate simplified directives could readily be passed through cleared Systems Command staff elements that would significantly improve program planning, test support and overall management. I solicit your consideration of directing that this minimum documentation be accomplished.

B. A. SCHRIEVER
General, USAF
Commander

2 Atchs
1. Ltr, SSD, 5 Feb 65, Special Prog Test Supp, w/1 Atch 65-SSOR-11
2. Ltr, AFWTR, Feb 65, Special Prog Test Supp, w/1 Atch WTC-65-0057
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

18 March 1965

Director, Program D

General Schriever has several good points in his letter. We must provide him all possible support planning information, consistent with program plans, status, and security.

In conjunction with the NRO Staff, please prepare an appropriate answer to Gen Schriever for me plus any necessary guidance and instructions to AFSC and SAFSP re range support.

Brockway McMillan
Director
National Reconnaissance Office

cc: Gen Stewart

OXCART/TAGBOARD