SCG

18 March 1965

Tagboard Program Test Support

Byeman # 23752-65

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 AFWIR. 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 #3 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 $V = \frac{-15}{2}$ budgetary and accounting actions.
- e. No information has been provided from which a FY66 support fund forecast can be made.

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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.

SIGNED

B. A. SCHRIEVER General, USAF Commander 2 Atchs

1. Ltr, SSD, 5 Feb 65, Special Prog Test Supp, w/1 Atch (6) 65-SSOR-11 2. Ltr, AFWIR, Feb 65, Special Prog Test Supp, w/1 Atch (8) WTC-65-0057

NOT ENCLUDED

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