

~~SECRET~~ / 12

WORKING MATERIAL

MEMO FOR [REDACTED]

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SSCI QUESTION: SHOULD THE DAMON PROGRAM BE TERMINATED?

GENERAL

THE MAIN PURPOSES OF DAMON ARE TO:

(1) PATHFIND USE OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE FOR NRP AND DOD MISSIONS.

(2) RETURN SUPPLEMENTAL SEARCH PHOTOGRAPHY IN CY 82.

BOTH DAMON PURPOSES ARE STILL VITALLY IMPORTANT AND BOTH ARE STILL SUPPORTED BY THE SPACE SHUTTLE SCHEDULE. AS LONG AS THE U.S. IS COMMITTED TO THE USE OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE FOR CRITICAL NEAR TERM NRP/DOD MISSIONS [REDACTED]

AS

IT IS NOW, DAMON IS AN ESSENTIAL PROGRAM. DAMON ALSO PROVIDES THE POTENTIAL FOR AN [REDACTED] HEXAGON MEDIUM RESOLUTION BROAD AREA SEARCH MISSIONS. SUCH A BACK UP MAY BE NEEDED, SINCE THESE RESOURCES ARE FIXED AND STRETCHED THIN OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

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(b)(3)

SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS ALREADY MADE

SINCE DAMON WAS APPROVED LATE IN DECEMBER 1979, IT HAS ALREADY PROVED OF SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO DOD, NASA, AND THE NRP:

1. DAMON HAS DEMONSTRATED THE FEASIBILITY OF A 27 MONTH STS INTEGRATION VICE THE PREVIOUS 48 MONTH PLAN.

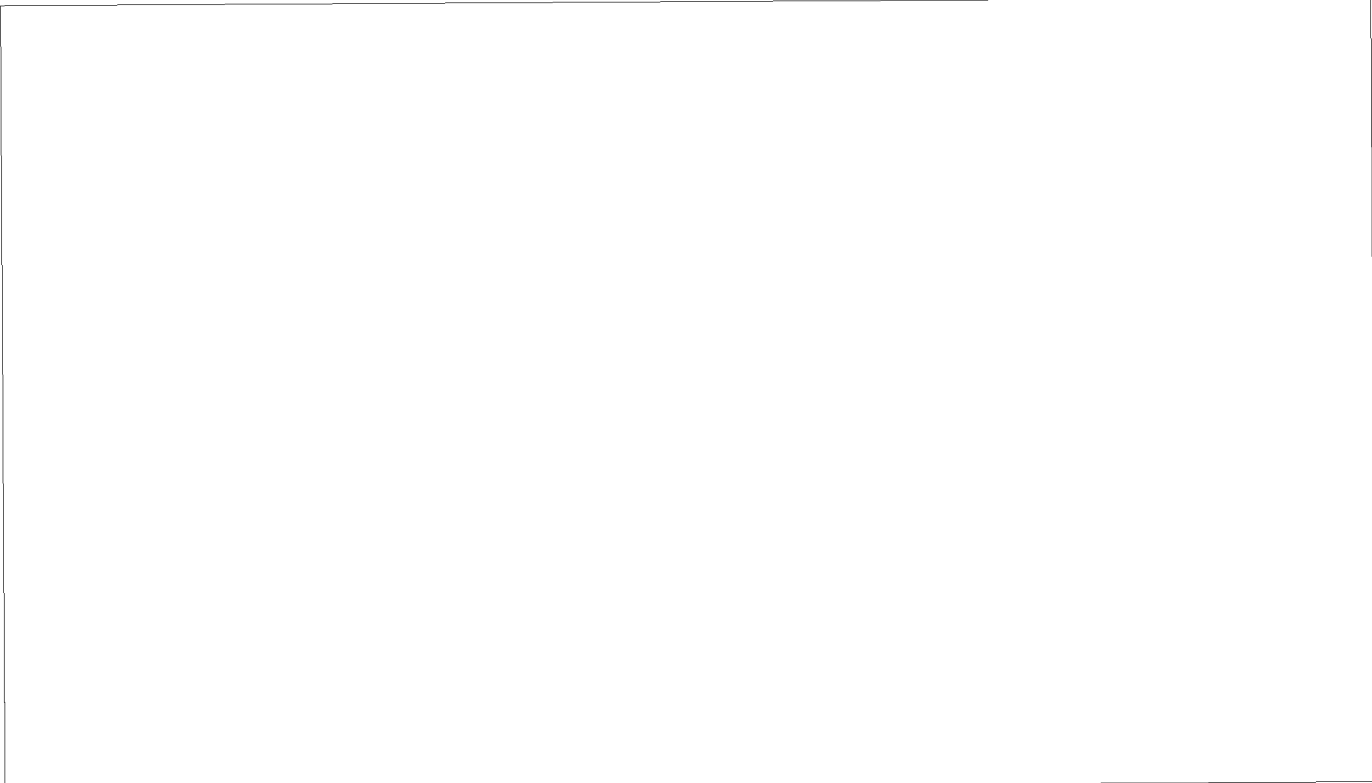
2. DAMON HAS FORCED THE ISSUE OF ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN NASA AND DOD ORGANIZATIONS. ALL PARTIES ARE READY TO TESTIFY THAT THE SUCCESS OF PAYLOAD OPERATIONS ON EARLY STS FLIGHTS HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED BY DAMON'S PIONEERING EFFORTS.

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[REDACTED], NASA/JSC MANAGEMENT WAS INTRODUCED TO DAMON LAST WEEK AND IS HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE AND MOTIVATED TO WORK OUT SECURITY, SAFETY AND OTHER MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES WITH A REAL EYEMAN PROGRAM.

(b)(1)
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6. IN THE TECHNICAL INTEGRATION AREA, DAMON IS FORCING ISSUES ON REAL ORBITER PERFORMANCE CAPABILITY, DETAILS OF CARGO BAY CONFIGURATION, PAYLOAD PROCESSING PROCEDURES, AND THE PERENNIAL PRICING ISSUE.

7. DAMON IS HELPING THE AIR FORCE SPACE TEST PROGRAM FLY A PAYLOAD - SPACE SEXTANT - WHICH WOULD NOT OTHERWISE BE ABLE TO AFFORD STS INTEGRATION; OTHER SMALL EXPERIMENTS IN THIS CATEGORY, BOTH DOD AND NRP, ARE EXPECTED TO SURFACE TO "PIGGYBACK" ON DAMON

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Handwritten notes and stamps, including a circular stamp with the text "CONTROL POINT" and other illegible markings.

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IN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

8. DAMON IS BEGINNING TO EVOLVE, FOR THE FIRST TIME, A MEANINGFUL ROLE FOR THE ASTRONAUTS IN A RECONASSIANCE MISSION: COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE HEXAGON CAMERA.

FUTURE CONTRIBUTIONS

DAMON HAS JUST STARTED AND HAS ALREADY CAUGHT THE IMAGINATION OF ALL WHO ARE DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH PUTTING HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT DOD/NRP PAYLOADS ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE, EVEN IF THERE IS SOME SLIPPAGE IN THE SHUTTLE SCHEDULE (AND THE SHUTTLE WOULD HAVE TO SLIP SIX MONTHS TO IMPACT DAMON, SINCE DAMON CAN FLY ON DEVELOPMENT TEST FLIGHTS) DAMON WILL CONTRIBUTE FAR BEYOND ITS DIRECT COST AS LONG AS THE STS IS IN-LINE WITH IMPORTANT DEFENSE MISSIONS. ISSUES YET TO BE RESOLVED WHICH DAMON WILL FORCE AND SOLVE INCLUDE:

- A. ASTRONAUT ROLES AND TRAINING
- B. COST SHARING
- C. CARGO MIXING
- D. SHUTTLE ENVIRONMENTS FOR RECONASSIANCE: CONTAMINANTS, ACOSTICS, STABILITY, ORBIT ACCURACY
- E. SHUTTLE SCHEDULING: QUICK REACTION
- F. PAYLOAD RECOVERY AND REFURBISHMENT FOR REFLIGHT.
- G. COST SAVINGS DUE TO FIELD MAINTENANCE AND REVISED OPERATIONAL PHILOSOPHY.
- H. NASA IN A DEFENSE OPERATIONAL MODE.

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11.2

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WORKING MATERIAL

1 April 80

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BOB PAULSON

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

S+T

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

THE PART IN ALL CAPS IS MY BEST SHOT. THE OTHER PAPER IS SMOOTHER AND MAY HAVE SOMETHING YOU CAN USE. COST DATA SHOULD COME FROM

[Redacted]

I WOULD ONLY POINT OUT THAT THE CHEAPEST WAY TO GO IN

(b)(1)
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THE LONG RUN IS PUT THE HARDWARE ON THE SHELF.

[Redacted]

Colonel

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(b)(3)

April 1, 1980

- *Dissemination*

- *Roles & Responsibilities in NASA 2000*

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[Redacted]

- *NASA KSC security infrastructure*

- *DAMON forcing all necessary procedures, cargo bay config etc*

- *Flying piggyback P11*

- *DAMON is developing meaningful role for Astor*

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