SUBJECT: SLC-4U LAUNCH PLANNING

REFERENCE:
A. MG 1549, DTO 21 NOV 80
B. KWISON MSG 9944, DD 29 SEP 80

1. ASSUMING A LAUNCH OF GAMBIT VEHICLES S1 OR S2 CAN SUPPORT A LAUNCH OF NET 19 FEB 81. PROCESSING, SHIPPING, AND CHECKOUT OF THE BOOSTER IS THE PACING SCHEDULE CONSTRAINT AS BOTH GAMBIT VEHICLES WILL BE IN A L-45 CALL-UP STATUS BY THE END OF DEC 80. TO SUPPORT THE 19 FEB 81 LAUNCH DATE, GAMBIT BOOSTER PROCESSING AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE LAUNCH DATE MUST COMMENCE BY 3 DEC 80. THE GAMBIT LAUNCH WOULD BE 69 DAYS AFTER THE GAMBIT LAUNCH.

2. AS DISCUSSED IN KWISON 9941, THE RECOMMENDED LAUNCH DATE FOR GAMBIT (S-1) IS 1 MAR 81. IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THIS DATE, A GAMBIT BOOSTER DECISION IS REQUIRED ON 9 DEC 80. AGAIN, THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE LAUNCH WOULD BE 69 DAYS AFTER THE GAMBIT LAUNCH.

3. THE DECISION DATE FOR SELECTION BETWEEN GAMBIT S1 OR S2, AS WELL AS THE MISSION SCENARIO (E.G., FLIGHT ALTITUDE, ETC.), IS REQUIRED BY LAUNCH MINUS 30 DAYS. THE DUE DATE FOR THE TARGET FILE FOR THE SELECTED MISSION IS LAUNCH MINUS 8 DAYS AS STATED IN THE REPORT CONTROL MANUAL.

4. SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF ALL FILM TYPES ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR EITHER GAMBIT MISSION. STANDARD FLIGHT LOADS (AS DEFINED BELOW) ARE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE IN STORAGE FOR UPLOADING AT LAUNCH MINUS 25 DAYS. IF CUSTOM FILM LOADS ARE REQUIRED, FILM LOAD DEFINITION MUST BE COMPLETED BY LAUNCH MINUS 60 DAYS. THE STANDARD FILM STACKS AVAILABLE AT KWISON ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. 9-INCH
   - SO-312 13,250 FT (HI-RES OR SEARCH)

B. 5-INCH
   - SO-312 950 FT (IN 5 SEGMENTS)
   - SO-409 450 FT (TWO 150 FT SEGMENTS IN SRV-1; ONE 150 FT SEGMENT IN SRV-2)
   - SO-255 600 FT (TWO 150 FT SEGMENTS PER SRV)
   - SO-138 600 FT (TWO 150 FT SEGMENTS PER SRV)

C. ANY OF THE ADDITIONAL 400 FT OF SO-312 NOT USED IN
TESTING WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONS.

S. KWOISON WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CHANGES TO THE USER'S MANUAL PER AGREEMENTS REACHED WITH [REDACTED] AT THE 6 NOV 89 SING MEETING HELD IN SUNNYVALE. AND DAVE NELSON WILL SERVE AS KWOISON'S ACTION OFFICERS TO ASSURE TIMELY COMPLETION OF THIS MANUAL.

6. IN SUMMARY, WE ARE ABLE TO SUPPORT ANY OPTION YOU DESIRED FOR GAMBIT 51 OR 52. HOWEVER, MY RECOMMENDATION IS TO PROCEED WITH THE LAUNCH OF GAMBIT 51 IN EARLY MARCH PRIOR TO THE LAUNCH OF [REDACTED]. THIS WILL ALLOW US MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN THE LAUNCH DECISION BETWEEN HEXAGON 47 AND [REDACTED], AS WELL AS MAINTAINING THE CAPABILITY TO LAUNCH GAMBIT 52 IN AN OPTIMUM SEARCH MODE IN AUGUST IF REQUIRED.

REV 26 NOV 89
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