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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

June 27, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ACDA [REDACTED] contract

On June 18, Mr. Gullion, ACDA/State Department, called to speak with Colonel Yost. Upon learning that Colonel Yost was on leave, Mr. Gullion asked to speak with me.

Mr. Gullion asked for an appointment to discuss a new venture in matters of concern to us. He further indicated that he wished to bring along with him Mr. [REDACTED] Project Engineer, to participate in the discussions. He said that they wished to talk about [REDACTED] and following the discussion he would like to talk with Mr. [REDACTED] of our office about specific details. I informed Colonel Marshall of Mr. Gullion's "desire" and Colonel Marshall alerted Mr. [REDACTED] and I met with Mr. Gullion and Mr. [REDACTED] on Tuesday, June 23 at 0930 in our conference room. Mr. Gullion described his specific request as follows:

a. Under its contract with [REDACTED] ACDA wishes to levy a Quick Reaction Task upon [REDACTED]. Specifically, ACDA is asking [REDACTED] to examine the marginal utility for verification purposes of increasing the present or programmed capabilities in several areas directly relating to our systems. The areas of specific interest are [REDACTED] and near real-time readout. The full text of the proposed task is attached.

b. Mr. Gullion requested our assistance in arranging with SAFSP for [REDACTED] engineers to speak with SAFSP experts on the various systems involved in the task.

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c. In addition to the areas of interest mentioned above, Mr. [redacted] pointed out that [redacted] would like to inquire about how to treat [redacted] "unprogrammed modifications" of existing systems; costing factors; and other current research efforts which might apply.

I told Mr. Gullion that our staff would have to study and evaluate the proposed task and that we could not authorize SAFSP to enter in these discussions without a thorough analysis of the undertaking. I told Mr. Gullion that we would not be willing to go into deep considerations involving cost data. He countered by saying that what they had in mind were rough aggregate figures--such as, systems which cost twice as much or an order of magnitude greater than existing system. I stated that regardless of how he proposed to treat cost data it was not a subject area that we could discuss at this time. I further told him that it would be in our best interests and his to defer such discussions until he had a specific case at hand which required "rough aggregate figures."

I further stated that in reviewing our agreement with Mr. Farley, I found that [redacted] was to complete three studies in April 1970 and that those studies were to be submitted for review by our staff before release. Mr. Gullion stated that the studies are nearing completion and will be submitted to the project directors first for review of accuracy and content and then to us for review for releasability.

Mr. Gullion asked Mr. [redacted] if it would be possible for Mr. [redacted] to speak with people at ORD and NPIC who were knowledgeable about previous research efforts in [redacted] etc. Mr. [redacted] agreed to make inquiries in this regard for Mr. Gullion and Mr. [redacted]

On June 24, I submitted the proposed QRC task to SAFSP for their review and comment. [redacted] 486, which described the latter is attached.

On June 26, I briefed Dr. Naka about what had transpired. Dr. Naka said that we should not let [redacted] this--that we

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should do it in-house. I conveyed Dr. Naka's comments to Colonel L'Heureux by a secure phone call.


GORDON BASS
Major, USAF

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