

NRO APPROVED FOR RELEASE
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
DIRECTORATE OF SPECIAL PROJECTS (OSAF)
AF UNIT POST OFFICE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90045

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REPLY TO
ATTN OF: SP-1

9 - DEC 1966

SUBJECT: LMSS Program

TO: DNRO (Dr Flax)

1. During your review of the Lunar Mapping and Survey System at Los Angeles on 16 November, I recommended that you discuss with Dr Mueller those aspects of the LMSS Program directly impacting the NRO. As backup information for that discussion, I am enclosing some "talking papers" for your use.

2. The major issue requiring official clarification by Dr Mueller, for the benefit of NASA as well as DOD, is the schedule status of the site certification (504C) and earth orbit test (209) missions. There is now and will continue to be for the foreseeable future an increasing competition for NRO resources between NRP and the LMSS Program. This competition is the direct result of holding the LMSS site certification mission to Dr Mueller's December 1967 launch schedule. We believe, but have been unable to obtain official NASA confirmation, that this date is unrealistic. Further, until the schedule status of the 504C and 209 missions is confirmed, there will continue to be the application of Air Force resources to the 504C mission and NASA resources to the 209 mission. Since these missions are not mutually supporting, some portion of this joint effort obviously is being needlessly dissipated, and some program cost increases are inevitable. Only Dr Mueller can remedy this paradox and I doubt that he is aware of it as a problem area or as a cost factor.

3. It is difficult to assess actual cost deltas to either NRP or the LMSS Program arising from the above situation. I am forecasting a \$2 - 3 million increase in FY 67 funds requirements for the LMSS Program. (When measured against the figure -- \$16.5 million -- quoted to Dr Mueller in June 1966.) In addition to the factors outlined in par 2, Dr Mueller should be made aware of two other major contributions to

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this predicted increase in expenditure:

a. Definition of the GFE hardware effort is essentially completed. The contractor is estimating a \$6 million increase over his June 1966 estimate (which, as you will remember, was based on a six-week study effort). We anticipated approximately \$4 million of these costs in the estimates presented to Dr Mueller.

b. We did not, however, anticipate the requirement to fragment the initial "black" payload module contract into separate "black" and "white" contracts. This we were required to do, as you will remember, when NASA decided to procure the LMSS Rack from Huntsville rather than Lockheed, the payload module contractor. We were then forced to provide a "white" contract for the Lockheed effort as a security cover. (Reference WHIG 5861, 5936; [REDACTED] 2692, 2403.)

4. Since there is no realistic baseline I can use to apportion costs in the three areas for which I am forecasting additive fund requirements, I am unable to provide you with an actual dollar breakdown or impact of each of the factors discussed above on the LMSS cost structure. However, any clarification Dr Mueller can provide to the confusion surrounding the status of the 504C and 209 missions will tend to reduce the requirement for an increase in FY 67 funds.

5. Accordingly, I recommend that you obtain from Dr Mueller a definitive commitment for the LMSS missions:

a. Specifically, a clarification of the status of missions 504C and 209 for both NASA and DOD.

b. Advise Dr Mueller of the lack of data we have on deterioration of Survey Camera components under long term storage conditions (with reference to proposed LMSS missions in 1969, 1970, 1971, using hardware fabricated and assembled in mid-1967.)


JOHN L MARTIN, JR
Brig Gen, USAF
Director

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1. Talking Papers
2. Prpsd Ltr, Dr Flax to Dr Mueller
3. TWX References

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