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HISTORY OF

AIR MATERIEL COMMAND TEST SITE OFFICE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

1 JULY 1959 - 31 DECEMBER 1959

HISTORY #4

Prepared for

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APPROVED BY:

PREPARED BY:

Lt Colonel, USAF

Chief, AMCTSO

Historian

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REPORTS CONTROL	SYMBOL
RCS-ATTD-5	* **

SEMIANNUAL HISTORICAL REPORT

A. A MATERIEL COMMAND

TEST SITE OFFICE

2. LOCATION

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE CALIFORNIA

FROM 1 July 1959 PROUGH 31 Dec 1

4. NAME AND LOCATION OF NEXT HIGHER HEADQUARTERS

SAN BERNARDINO AIR MATERIEL AREA NORTON AIR FORCE BASE CALIFORNIA

5. PERSONNEL STRENGTH (Le t day of reporting period)						
	OFFICERS	AIRMEN	CIVILIAN	TOTAL		
AUTHORIZED	5	0	142	147		
ASSIGNED	5	0	133	138		
ATTACHED						

6. STATEMENT OF MISSION INCLUDING CHANGES (Continue on separate about)

Insure successful accomplishment of the installation, checkout, and operational phases of the Air Materiel Area's Contract Administration, Quality Control and Logistic Support programs at Vandenberg Air Force Base.

- 7. ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES INCLUDING REASONS FOR CHANGE (Continue on separate sheet)
 - Reference attached Chart R-1 dated 5 Sept 59. The organizational structure included the following changes to previous approved structure of 24 Mar 59: As follows:
 - A. R-1- Deputy for Procurement and Production, to exercise management controls over all Procurement and Production and Quality Control places of operation.
 - B. R-2- Deputy for Logistics, to exercise management control over all Logistic Functions.
 - C. RMM- Missile Support Division(DME/SBAMA Detachment) attached for Administrative Support.
 - D. RA-No Change
 - E. RB-No Change
 - F. RC-No Change

G. RL- Added two Branches: Chart of 24 March 1959 (See Attachment #2)

RIS- Added to previous chart dated 24 March 1959. The Support Branch responsible for in-Flight Safety System. Technical Facilities, Transportation, Discoverer (SAMOS), Communications, LOX Plants.

H. RP- Added two Branches: (See Attachment #3)

RPD-WS 117L Branch (Sentry)
RPR- Industrial Resources Branch. Added to previous chart dated
24 March 1959.

I. RQ- Added one Branch. (See Attachment #4)

RQS- Weapons System Support Branch, added to previous Chart dated 24 March 1959.

- RRU PRUBLEMS (Continue on separate sheet)
- A. Lack of adequate communication facilities, principally telephone due to lack of bounds, partially resolved by use of all available tie-lines.
- B. Lack of POV funds still a problem, partially resolved by acquisition of (11) eleven Air Force Vehicles thru cooperation of EQ, SBAMA.
- C. Lack of equipment and supplies resulted due to (55) Fifty Five overstrength positions which were not authorized to be programmed in budget estimate. This was partially resolved by conversion of overstrength positions to firm authorizations for inclusion in budget estimates.
- D. Uniformity of Administrative actions was achieved thru a program of developing and implementing Office Instructions and Standard Operating Procedures.
- E. Recruitment continues to be difficult for new positions and replacements due to remoteness of Vandenberg AF Base, Comparative high cost of living and Comparative lack of qualified personnel in this area.

S. MISSION PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS

A. <u>Administration Office</u> (RA)

Accomplishment of Security and Budget responsibility were seriously hampered by lack of qualified personnel to fill the established positions of a Budget Analyst and a Security Specialist. Neither of these two positions were filled during this reporting period.

B. <u>Industrial Property</u> (RB)

(1) Delay in receipt of secondary delegation in some instances has hampered accomplishment of mission. This has resulted in Government property being received by contractors several months prior to delegation. In other instances, refusal of Prime ACO's to delegate secondary administration of Special Facility Contracts has sulted in inadequate control of high dollar value Government property. Action by the Division to acquire or expedite Secondary delegation, in some instances, has been of no avail.

- (2) Issuance of conflicting instructions by Prime Property Administrators directly to contractor personnel at this site or thru the contractors prime plant has caused confusion and indecision on the part of the contractor. This problem has been solved, in some instances, in conferences attended by all concerned.
- (3) Difficulty in acquiring property control procedures from subcontractors within a reasonable time subsequent to assignment of secondary delegation has precluded full accomplishment of mission on a timely basis. Although close follow-up has been made, and delay in receipt of procedures has been experienced.
- (4) Non-reporting or delay in reporting, by contractors, the loss, damage or destruction of Government property has precluded timely investigations and processing of Written Advices. Thru the efforts of Property Administrators in keeping the contractors aware of their responsibility for prompt reportings of loss, damage or destruction of Government Property, deficiencies in this area have been greatly reduced.

RC-

(1) In this period, the number of assigned contracts have increased to fifty one prime contracts, twenty eight subcontracts and two tertiary delegations aggregating a total of eighty one contracts. This represented an increase of six prime contracts and four subcontracts or a total of ten contracts over the previous six month period.

Atlas Complex 65-1 consisting of a control center and launches 576-A1, 576-A2 and 576-A3 were turned over to SAC on 31 August 1959.

ROGRESS:

Turnover from Contractor to SAC 576A Complex in its entirety was accomplished. Successful launching of first Atlas Missile from VAFB. A system was developed to control priority \$1 requisition. Represents SBAMA in support of Missile Reliability Groups at VAFB to assure that the weapons systems can be adequately and timely supported. Logistic concepts were new to the Air Force and VAFB automatically became a proving ground therefore. Contract deficiencies generated many unusual and unforeseen logistic support and operational problems. These problems have to be analyzed, evaluated and corrected on an individual basis as they occur.

PROBLEMS:

- a. Major problems resulted due to the compressed cycle for research and development. This compressed schedule resulted in training and operational programs being implemented with Research and Development activities at VAFE.
- b. Operational systems were transferred/to SAC with numerous outstanding Engineering Change Proposals. RL provided continous assistance to resolve configuration problems.
- c. Weapons systems were delivered to SAC with inadequate or in some cases no maintenance and operating technical data. RL in coordination with AMC assistance will continue to be required for some time to prepare and revise existing Technical ta.
- d. Some systems and sub-systems were delivered to SAC for operational and training use prior to completion of spares provisioning, Contractor storage sites were established and surveiled in an effort to make available to SAC a quick reaction type support.
- e. Real Property Installed Equipment support concepts were altered prior to, during, and subsequent to SAC gaining control of systems. A decision was made that Direct Support RPIE items would be supported by AMC.
- f. Calibration requirements and the problems inherent therein are exceptionally high. Depot assistance has been provided and a review of all required test support equipment is in process.
- g. Compressed programs dictated that SAC assume operational and training functions prior to acquiring the manpower and skills to maintain and operate the system. Depot assistance was provided to assist in needed areas.
- h. The newness of systems and lack of technical data precluded SAC from programming manpower required for many areas. Again depot assistance had to be provided, either by AMC or Contractor.

Production Division responsibilities have increased as a result of an increase in the number of contracts from 65 to 85 assigned for production surveillance. The increased workload was reason for changes in personnel from ten (10) last reporting period to twenty-three (23) this period. During this time, 1 Jul 59 thru 31 Dec 59, five (5) branches were in operation within the Production Division, namely the 117L, WS315A, 107A-1, 107A-2, and the Industrial Resources Branch. These branches, with the exception of the Industrial Resources Branch. are now located within the contractor's administrative facilities area to provide a more flexible type of operation, and to save time and effort in carrying out the Production Division mission. To support this reorganization, various operation procedures and directives had to be developed to define the production surveillance responsibilities of the Branch personnel. The Industrial Resources Branch effort increased during this period as a result of added facility requirements of the various new contractors at VAFB. The work order requests from contractors to have work accomplished on buildings assigned for their use increased by more than 35% during this reporting period. Propellant orders to support contractors requirements increased and became more of a workload than originally anticipated. The assignment of space to the Air Force contractors also increased and obtaining buildings from the base became more difficult. Lack of capability by base for support of contractors continues to be a problem; rehabilitation of buildings assigned for contractor use is proceeding but continues to pose problems. These problems may be attributed to the increase of contracts at Vandenberg, plus the shortage of adequate buildings. To aid in eliminating the problem of inadequate buildings, plans were made to request the base to set aside a group of buildings in the 5000-6000 area for contractor use, for rehabilitation by contract, subject rehabilitation to be accomplished in two (2) packages, first package to be started on 1 Apr 60 and completed on or about 15 Aug 1960; second package to start on or about 1 Sep 1960 with an estimated completion date of 1 Jan 61.

During the reporting period events by Weapons Systems are as follows:

a. W5 107A-1 Mission Progress

(1) Complex 576-A and MOD II guidance was accepted by AMC on 1 September 1959 subject to clean-up by Contractor of all items listed on the Deviation Document.

b. WS 107A-2 Mission Progress

(2) During this period the Martin Company, integrating contractor for The Titan Weapon System, and their associate Prime Contractors arrived at Vandenberg Air Force Base, and commenced work on the first OSTF-1 Launcher.

c. WS 115A

- (1) The Thor Missile is utilized as a Booster on the WS 117L Discoverer Program. The Second Stage "Agena" is a Lockheed vehicle. Four (4) launches were concerned. Complex 75-3 which includes launch emplacements #4 & 5 and Control Center #2 is under the custody of Douglas Aircraft Corporation, for their participation in the Discoverer Program. Douglas Aircraft Corporation also has the responsibility for completely rehabing launch emplacements after firing. AFQC accepted for turnover to the using Strategic Air Command, the following installations:
 - (a) Launch emplacement # 6 (Complex 75-2)

(b) Control Center #2 (Complex 75-2)

(c) Various segments of the Receiving, Inspection and Maintenance Building.

(d) DAC rehabing of SAC launch emplacements after their launching.

(e) Inertial guidance ground support equipment.

d. WS 117L

- (1) 0/C Division personnel accepted from Lockheed Missiles and Space Division, working under contract 04(647)-347, the installation and checkout of:
- (a) The Discoverer Launch complex composed of Pads 75-3-4, 75-3-5 and control center #3.
- (b) Tracking Station #1 composed of SS/H telemetering and data processing units.
- (c) Tracking Station #2 composed of radar skin track and data processing units.
- (d) Fuel and pyrotechnic storage areas located within the base ammunition storage area.
- 2. Pads 75-4 and 75-5 were both actively utilized in this reporting period for launching agena vehicles into a north-south orbit. With most of the launch equipment exposed to the elements, a constant problem with rust and corresion was presented. QC efforts were along the line of assisting the contractor in developing a comprehensive long range program concerned with control of this everpresent problem.
- 3. When one of the vehicles being prepared for launch was destroyed because of an uncoordinated equipment wiring change, it became necessary for AFQC to tighten up some of the loose Phase "A" contractual requirements. In the case of the above accident, the vehicle wiring was changed without providing a matching change for the launcher associated wiring. A more definitive method of drawing and change control was incorporated and adequate authorizing documents clearly denoting proper distribution were required for every incorporated change.

e. Weapon System Support

- (1) On 30 August 1959, the Weapon System Support Branch completed inspection and test of the Kellog Switchboard and Supply Company communications equipment in the SM 65-1 Complex. Subject systems and equipment were subsequently turned over to SAC.
- (2) In October 1959, the Weapon System Support Branch assumed Quality Control responsibility of Kellogg Switchboard and Supply Company (Communications): Aerojet General Corporation (IRSS): Tumpane Company (Contractor Storage Site): General Electric (Warehousing) and Burroughs Corporation (Contractor Storage Site), for which secondary Q/C delegations were received from the Prime Administrative Contracting Officer.
- RW- The Weapons Phasing Office of the AMC Test Site Office was initially authorized on 24 March 1959 and was so reflected on SBAMA Manpower and Management Organizational Chart R-1 of the same date. Mission progress as predicated against mission statement has been very satisfactory. A marked improvement in the Administration of all three weapons system programs is evident since inception of this office. Use of the team concept has enhanced associations with other commands at Vandenberg AFB as well as other associated commands within the Air Force.

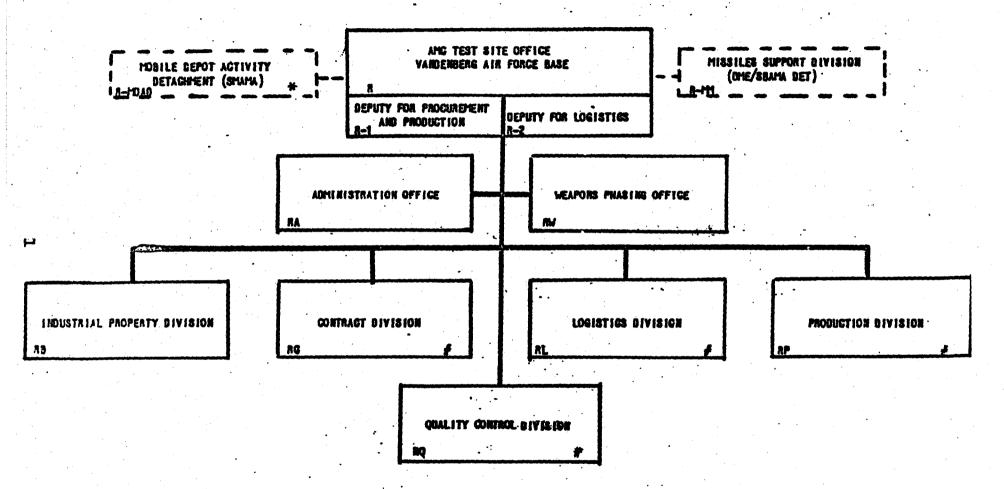
AMCTSO

KEY PERSONNEL

NAME AND DUTY:		DATE OF ASSIGNMENT
PENMAN, GEORGE W. Lt. Col. USAF Chief, AMC Test Site Office		Special Order No. A-42 15 June 1959
JAMES, HOWARD D. Deputy Chief, AMC Test Site Office		3 March 1958
GREGORY, RICHARD H. Chief, Administration Office		9 March 1959
PODLESAK, GEORGE E. Chief, Contract Division		15 June 1959
EWAIDT, RAIPH W. Chief, Industrial Property Division		4 August 1958
YILL, TROY L. Chief, Logistics Division	•	27 July 1958
DE LUCA, JOSEPH Chief, Production Division		15 June 1958
LITFIN, FRANK A. Chief, Quality Control Division		23 March 1959
SPARREVOHN, FREDERIC D. R. Maj. USAF Chief, Weapons Phasing Office		18 September 1959

DATE: 5 SEPTEMBER 1959
APPROVED: MANFOWER AND ORGANIZATION DIVISION CONTROLLER

ORGANIZATION CHART A-1 AMC TEST SITE-OFFICE, VANDENGERS AFS STAMA



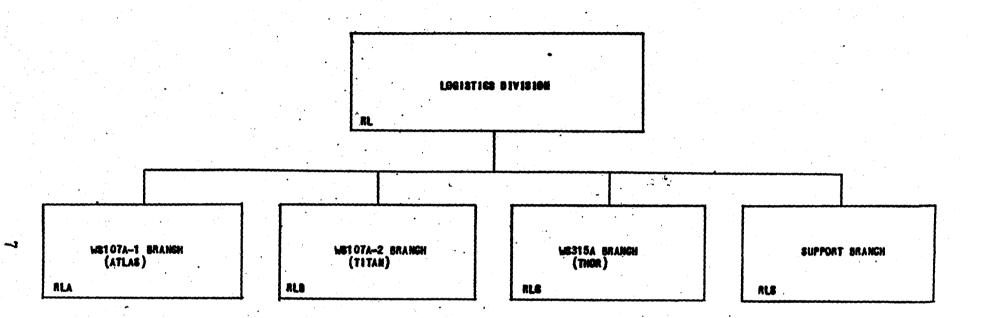
THIS CHART SUPERSEDES ORGANIZATION CHART 8-1 DATED 24 MARCH 1969

INDICATES FURTHER BREAKDOWN OF CONTONENT

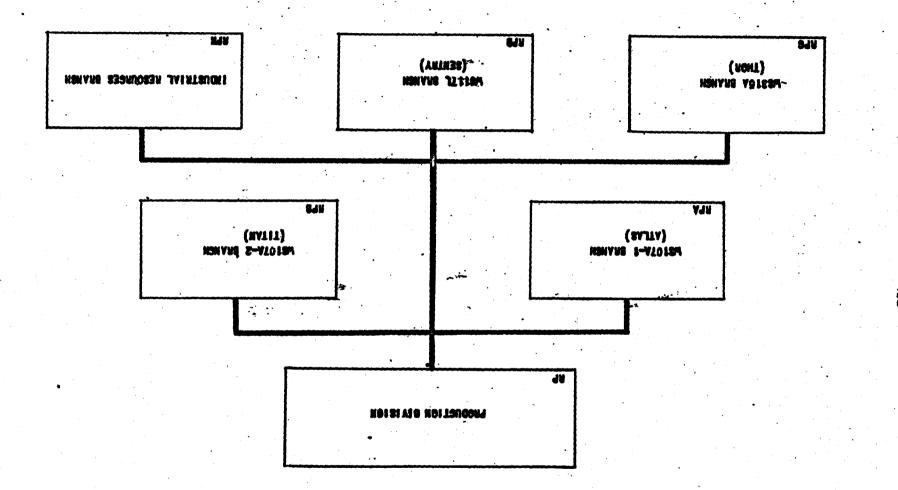
* THIS ACTIVITY IS UNDER THE COMMAND JURISDICTION OF HO BACRAMENTO AIR PREFEIEL AREA (SPUMA)

DATE: 5 SEPTEMBER 1959 APPROVED: MANPOWER AND ORGANIZATION BIVISION SOPPTROLLER

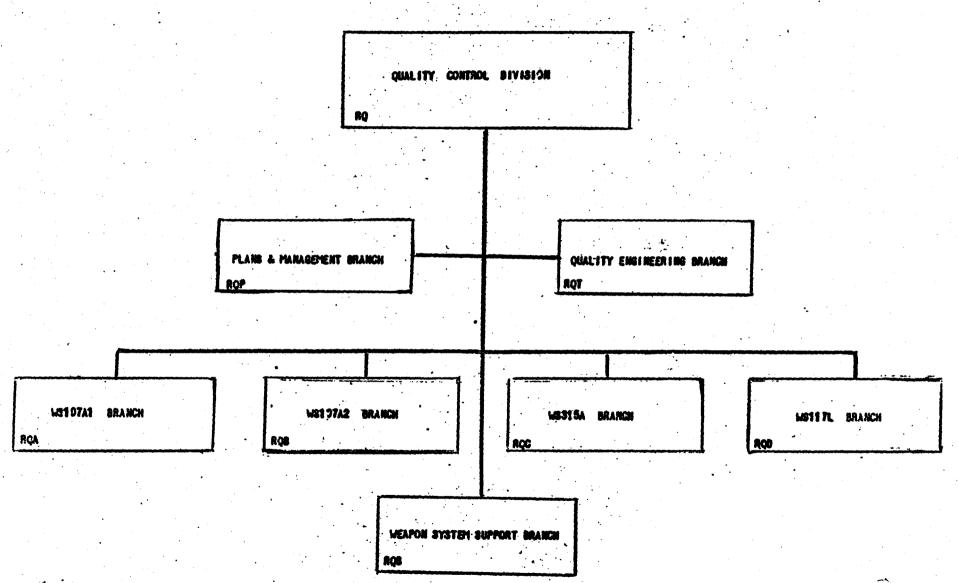
ORGANIZATION CHART R-3 LOGISTICS BIVISION AMCTSO, VANDENBERG AFB, SBAPA



SUPÉRBEDES ORGANIZATION CHART DATED 24 MARCH 1958



--- SERSEL ORGANIZATION CHART DATERS PAREN 1968



THIS TO VPERSEDER ORGANIZATION CHART N-5 DATED 24 MARCH 1969