

LDTR

15 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Management Problem Within the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation

1. This memorandum is written for the purpose of pointing out an apparent management problem within the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Missile Systems Division, LS 117L organization. If the problem continues, it will seriously affect the utilization of the Launch and Down-Range Instrumentation at AFMTC. This, in turn, has direct effect on the LS 117L program schedule.

2. The problem can be set up as follows:

In order to comply with the requirements established by AFMTC that are necessary for organizations using the presently installed (or special) launch and down-range equipment, it is necessary that using agencies comply with the procedures established by the "Test Requirements Handbook", AFMTC (LSC). In this handbook, the instructions for Operational Directives, Range Safety and Using agencies having special requirements (i.e. LS 117L) are explained.

3. LDTR has been informed by personnel from LAC-WED Test Organization that this type of thing is standard operating procedure with them, and that they have nearly completed this effort. They admit that very few of the LS 117L technical requirements have been given to them by the Research Group. Clearly, this gives rise to possible errors or omissions. The Test Group is apparently very familiar (through personal experience) with the layout and situations that exist in fact at the AFMTC and WEDC.

4. On the other hand, technical LS 117L requirements are being established within the LAC-WED Research Group. Requirements which will require the use of "on station" unmodified facilities at AFMTC, plus the installation of specific LS 117L equipments at AFMTC are being delineated. However, since this effort is being accomplished by the Research Group, there is a tendency to consider technical, rather than operational problems. This group admits to general non-familiarity with AFMTC and the operational techniques already established at the test centers.

5. It would seem that this is an organizational or management problem that should be resolved immediately within LAC-WED. Errors or omissions caused by lack of management effectiveness in coordinating these apparent independent efforts, can cause serious LS 117L program schedule difficulties in the very near future.

6. The programming of facilities at test centers is a complex problem which has an inherent fixed load time which is troublesome at the best. This consideration and the early program schedule for WS 117L at AFMTC makes it essential that careful, coordinated planning must be done.

7. This problem has been brought to the attention of the various people concerned by AFTR in the past, and is being made a matter of record by this memo.

SIGNED

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