SECRET
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

REPLY TO
ATTN ON: APCCS

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Basic Policy Concerning SAMOS

29 December 1960

TO: AAC
ADG
ARDC
PACAF
USAFS
MATS
USAFE
AU
CONAC
ADC
ATC
HEC
AFAPC
TAC
SAC

1. Reference is made to: (U)

   a. AFGSS letter, subject "Missile and Satellite Systems,"
      14 October 1960.

   b. SAFOC-3c message, 1506/60, 15 December 1960.

2. Secretary of the Air Force Order No. 115.1, dated 31 August 1960,
   established the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems in the Office
   of the Secretary of the Air Force. It provides that the Director of
   the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems is primarily responsible
   for assisting the Secretary in discharging his responsibility for
   the direction, supervision and control of the SAMOS project. (U)

3. Secretary of the Air Force Order No. 116.1, dated 31 August 1960,
   directed the organization of a SAMOS Project Office as a field extension
   of the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. It specifies
   that the Director of the SAMOS Project is responsible to and will
   report directly to the Secretary of the Air Force. (U)

4. In recognition of the special management procedures and the
   necessity of achieving the program objectives at the earliest date,
   the following policy is established for the SAMOS program: (U)

   a. No information concerning this program will be initiated by
      Air Force organizations. (G)

   b. This program is an R&D effort aimed at the development of
      various promising reconnaissance techniques. (U)

   c. The R&D program will include all the necessary elements to
      insure that the data which is obtained can be efficiently and promptly
      exploited. (G)

   d. The nature and character of an ultimate operational system
      is completely conditional upon the success of the methods which will
      be exploited in the R&D program. Therefore, as soon as sufficient
      R&D progress is made to justify effective operational planning, specific
      instructions will be issued to insure timely integration of this system
      in Air Force operational inventory. (G)
5. The following actions will be taken by this headquarters which are consistent with the established SAMOS management procedures and policy outlined above. (U)

a. SAMOS for the time being will not be included in the Program Documents (example: PE, PD) described in AFM 27-1. (U)

b. SAMOS project information will be furnished as necessary for legislative matters by the Director of the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems. (U)

c. The Director of the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems will keep the key elements of the Air Staff and the commands informed, as necessary, regarding this program. (U)

d. Documents reflecting Air Force requirements for reconnaissance will continue to be prepared and should be forwarded through normal channels to the USBS for consideration in SAMOS project requirements. (S)

e. Air Force Regulation 375 series will not apply to this program. (U)

R. M. MONTGOMERY
Major General, U. S. Air Force
Assistant Vice Chief of Staff